

THE READER

A REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 98, Vol. IV.

Saturday, November 12, 1864.

{ Price Fourpence;
Stamped, Fivepence.

PARIS.—AGENT FOR THE READER.
MR. J. ROTHSCHILD, Rue de Buci, 14, who will receive Subscriptions and forward Books intended for Review.

GERMANY.—Mr. F. A. BROCKHAUS,
Leipzig, having been appointed Agent for Leipzig and Northern Germany, it is requested that intending Subscribers will send their names to him. Books for Review may also be forwarded to him for enclosure in his Weekly Parcel.

PRUSSIA.—Messrs. ASHER & CO.,
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NORTH OF EUROPE.—Messrs. ONCKEN,
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INDIA: MADRAS.—Messrs. GANTZ
Brothers, 175, Mount Road, Madras, will register names of Subscriber on account of THE READER. Annual Subscription, including postage, 13 rupees.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—
PROFESSOR PARTRIDGE will deliver his COURSE of LECTURES on ANATOMY this season on the evenings of Monday, November 14th, 21st, 28th, and December the 5th, 12th, and 19th. The Lectures commence each evening at eight o'clock precisely.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Secretary.

PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS.

The FELLOWS of the ROYAL SOCIETY are hereby informed that the SECOND PART of the PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS, Volume 154, for the year 1864 is now published and ready for delivery on application at the Office of the Society, in Burlington House, daily, between the hours of Ten and Four.

WALTER WHITE, Assistant Secretary, R. S.

Burlington House, Nov. 12, 1864.

LINNEAN SOCIETY.—THE THIRD AND
CONCLUDING PART OF VOL. XXIV. OF THE TRANSACTIONS OF THE LINNEAN SOCIETY OF LONDON is published this day, price £2. 10s. Sold by LONGMAN & Co., Paternoster Row; and by Mr. KIPPIS, at the Apartments of the Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly; of whom may be had all or any of the preceding volumes.

The FELLOWS of the SOCIETY are requested to apply to Mr. KIPPIS for their copies between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clock. Complete sets of the First Twenty Volumes, may be obtained at the Society's Apartments, by the FELLOWS, at the reduced price of £20.

The FIRST SEVEN VOLUMES of the Society's 8vo. JOURNAL are now complete, and may be purchased at the price of 12s. each for the entire Journal; or 8s. each for either the Zoological or Botanical Section, separately.

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PROFESSOR KEY, A.M., F.R.S., will commence his Course by an INTRODUCTORY LECTURE (which is open to the Public) on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14th, at 4 o'clock. The Course will consist of about Twenty Lectures, to be given on successive Mondays from 4 to 5.15 p.m. Fee 21.

JOHN ROBERT SEELEY, M.A.,
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CHAS. C. ATKINSON,
Secretary to the Council.

University College, London,
Oct. 28th, 1864.

DR. HOFMAN, F.R.S., will commence a COURSE of TEN LECTURES on CHEMISTRY, on FRIDAY, the 18th NOVEMBER, at 8 p.m. To be continued on each succeeding Wednesday and Friday Evenings at the same hour. Tickets for the whole course may be had at the ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES, Jermyn Street, price 5s.

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THE READER.

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SENSATIONAL LITERATURE.

THE question raised by the Archbishop of York in his recent Charge is one which must have frequently presented itself to the mind of any one who has ever examined the popular literature of the present day. Is the tendency of the reading provided for the million good or bad? This is the question which the Archbishop endeavoured to answer. Disagreeing, as we do, with the conclusion arrived at by the archi-episcopal censor, we wish to explain some of the grounds on which we dissent from it. The subject is too wide a one to be exhausted in one or even in many articles; but still we can show some considerations which incline us to take a hopeful view of the influence of this class of literature. Let us admit that his Grace was far from exaggerating the power of this new agency. Probably it is only those practically acquainted with literature as a trade who are at all aware of the magnitude of this popular literature. Every now and then we see paragraphs in the newspapers announcing the unprecedented sale of some successful work like Macaulay's History or Tennyson's "Enoch Arden;" but all these bookselling triumphs are trifling, as far as numbers go, compared with those daily achieved by works whose very names are unknown to circulating libraries. Some years ago a very clever article was published in *Household Words*—written, we believe, by Mr. Wilkie Collins—called the "Unknown Public." This public has authors, classics, publishers, alike unknown to ordinary readers. Very few, we suspect, of the subscribers to Mudie ever heard of "Woman and her Master;" yet the author of this work probably addressed a larger public than any writer of our generation. There are, at the present day, penny serials, never seen in drawing-rooms or heard of in clubs, which count their subscribers by hundreds of thousands. Between the public who read three-volume novels and that which takes its mental food in penny numbers there is a great gulf. With the exception of Charles Dickens, no modern writer has ever succeeded in attracting both sections of the reading world; and even his success has been a partial one. In literature, as well as other matters, it is impossible to serve two

masters; and, whenever a writer, who, like Miss Braddon, has made his first success amongst the unknown public, begins to rise into the notice of the upper ten thousand of readers, he is obliged to alter his style in a manner which alienates from him the affections of his first love. The experiment of creating a literature which shall attract the educated and uneducated alike has been frequently tried and has universally proved a failure. The *Penny Magazine*, *Good Words*, and the *British Workman* may be mentioned, amongst other cheap periodicals, as having most nearly achieved the object in view; but even the most enthusiastic admirers of these publications must admit that they have failed in reaching the unknown public of "Woman and her Master." It is, we think, hopeless to expect any sudden change in the popular taste. The million knows well enough what it wants, and cannot be cajoled into believing it is amused by works designed to impart instruction. The wisest plan, therefore, is to look at facts as they are, and, admitting the existence of sensational literature as an unalterable fact, to see whether it is as great an evil as the Archbishop of York imagines it to be.

First of all, then, it must be granted by all who have studied the subject that this people's literature is, according to its own standard, eminently moral. It is a fact worth recording that no avowedly licentious publication, however low in price, has ever succeeded to late years. The almost prudish distaste to anything "which can call a blush on the cheek of a young person" is not confined to the homes of Podsnapery, but is shared in by the inmates of cellars and garrets. The purchasers of genuine Holywell Street publications, of the *Lives of the Women of London* and works of a similar character, are not found amongst the working classes, but amongst a somewhat higher order of readers. The truth is that the frame of mind which derives pleasure from reading voluptuous descriptions is almost incompatible with hard daily labour. There is vice enough amongst men and women who labour with their hands; but dissoluteness, in the true sense of the word, is a sin which must be sought for amongst persons who have a certain amount of leisure and luxury. A sort of moral gout, it only afflicts those who can afford to indulge their desires. In the same way, the places of entertainment where licentious singing of any kind is tolerated are never those frequented by a very low-class audience. A novel designed to attract the million must be moral; virtue must always triumph in the end; and, if a somewhat sentimental tone is thrown in, so much the better. The real objections to this class of literature we take to be the following:—They inculcate no high moral lesson; they impart no valuable information; they describe an unreal life, such as never has existed and never can exist; their subject-matter is almost always some tale of thrilling horror or startling crime. Now the last of these objections seems to us the only serious one. If it could be shown that more murders or robberies were committed in consequence of the perusal of sensational literature, there would be much to say against it. The denouncers of this class of novels always quote with exultation a story that Curvoisier said the idea of murdering Lord William Russell was first suggested to him by reading Harrison Ainsworth's "Jack Sheppard." If the story is true, which we much doubt, it proves nothing, as the only possible moral to be derived from "Jack Sheppard" is that the cleverest and most adroit of criminals gets hung at last. But the real truth is that the class of crimes on which sensational stories are based is not one that offers any temptation to the bulk of their readers. To forge a will, to substitute a changeling for the real heir to a dukedom, to poison a wealthy uncle, or to lock up your wife in a madhouse, are all crimes whose commission presupposes certain conditions of life which are eminently not those of the reading million. The acts of wife-beating,

of pocket-picking, or of getting drunk in a pothouse, are never depicted in these stories as surrounded with a halo of sentimentalism. Vulgar every-day offences are a great deal too common for the taste of the unknown public. Descriptions of the sordid daily life around them have no charms for them. The virtuous milliner who, in the novel, resists the advances of the wicked baronet must either die a death of sentimental beauty, or else must be discovered to be the lost daughter of a peer. The whole object of these books is to take their readers into an imaginary world. For our own part, we think that the object is not only unobjectionable, but praiseworthy. The instinct of poetry which exists in every human breast indicates itself in this love of poor readers for stories of lords and ladies and palatial mansions and sparkling coronets and wild adventure—for descriptions, in fact, of a life far other from that in which those who read them have been born and bred and have to die. It is all very well to say that people ought to be contented with their lot, and that happiness, on the whole, is equally apportioned to every class; but the time will never come when people will learn to believe that flat beer is as nice a beverage as champagne, or that an attic in St. Giles's is as comfortable as a first floor in Belgravia. If every sensational romance could be suppressed to-morrow, the working classes would not become at once converted to the creed that everything was the best for them in the best possible of worlds.

A question might be raised, with somewhat more reason, as to whether the popular passion for reading the narratives of criminal trials was a hopeful sign for the progress of civilization. There is no doubt that the trial of Müller created for the time a new world of newspaper-readers. We doubt, however, whether this desire to learn the details of a great crime can really be called morbid. A divorce-court case, however scandalous the particulars given, never creates a sudden demand for the newspapers which publish the fullest reports. The issue of life and death is required to stimulate the popular curiosity. There is something, to use a cant expression of the day, "intensely human" about a murder. The fate of the murdered man and of the criminal tried for his life comes home to every one, high or low, rich or poor, in a way which no other event ever approaches to. Moreover, whether for good or bad, this morbid curiosity is by no means confined to the uneducated classes. The readers of the high-class papers took quite as deep an interest in the Müller case as the purchasers of the cheapest of periodicals; and it would be gross injustice to ascribe the interest felt in this memorable trial to the influence of sensational literature.

Is it possible—can any body conceive it possible—that any sane person was excited by a perusal of the trial to imitate Müller's offence and acquire a similar evil notoriety to that which has ended in his consignment to the gallows? If such a person exists, his state of mind must be so utterly exceptional that it is impossible to predict how any given cause might or might not influence him; and, if the effect referred to is not produced by the reports of this or similar trials, it is hard to see how their influence can really be injurious. Indeed, if the reports of murder trials were necessarily pernicious in their influence on the community, it is clear that newspapers ought not to be allowed to reproduce them at all. Our own impression is that, if trials are to be reported, if the object of punishment is to deter men from the commission of crimes, the wider the circulation given to the proceedings of justice the better for the interests of society. The truth is that, in certain minds, there still exists a prejudice, of which the Archbishop of York has unwittingly made himself the exponent, that it is not safe to give exciting mental food of any kind to the great mass of the labouring classes. The prejudice we believe to be an erroneous one. At any

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rate, as long as cheap periodicals exist, tales of thrilling interest will form the staple of their produce; and it is idle to complain that men in their leisure hours wish to be amused and not instructed.

CURRENT LITERATURE.

MR. KAYE ON THE INDIAN MUTINY.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

A History of the Sepoy War in India, 1857-1858. By John William Kaye, author of the "History of the War in Afghanistan." In Three Volumes. Volume I. (W. H. Allen & Co.)

BEFORE tracing the immediate causes of the outbreak, culminating in the annexation of Oude, it is desirable to notice Mr. Kaye's account of the political merits of that measure, which have been very differently estimated by Indian statesmen.

When Oude was a province of the Mogul Empire, the Newaub-Wuzeers, though holding an hereditary title, were, as that title proclaimed, only ministers and vassals of Delhi. After the British became connected with the court of Lucknow, the usual consequences followed. In return for a certain subsidy they provided the rulers with troops, and their representative in the capital assumed the political and military government of the country; the internal administration still resting with the Newaub-Wuzeer. That administration was, then as afterwards, of a most vicious and shameful character. The court, given up to debauchery, maintained itself on the plunder of the people, who became the prey of legalized extortioners and sunk to such a condition as promised to render them unavailable even for the ruthless exactions of the revenue-farmers. The British Government, standing in the position of a protectorate, naturally felt responsible for this state of things. But remonstrance after remonstrance proved in vain, until at last Lord Wellesley, by the treaty of 1801, bound the Newaub-Wuzeer to carry on his government in such a manner as to be conducive to the prosperity of his subjects, and, with a view to that end, always to advise with, and act in conformity to, the counsels of the officers of the East India Company, the Newaub-Wuzeer giving at the same time a large slice of his province as a material guarantee. The arrangement endured, though the country was even worse governed than before; and in 1817 Lord Hastings cemented the alliance by ceding a useless tract of country which had been obtained from Nepaul, and constituting the rulers of Oude independent kings—the consideration being a few millions much wanted at the moment in the Calcutta coffers. The administration however, grew worse, and, the British, being still responsible, remonstrances were renewed from time to time. Nussur-ood-Deen surpassed all his predecessors in profligacy and neglect; and, as Mr. Kaye remarks, the misgovernment of the country was a chronic breach of engagement. To provide a remedy for this state of things a new treaty was drawn up and agreed to by Lord Auckland, then Governor-General, providing that, in the event of any more protracted misrule, the British Government should be entitled to appoint its own officers to the management of any part, great or small, of the province; that the old native levies should be abandoned, and a new force, commanded by British officers, organized in its place at the cost of the Oude Government. In no other way, however, was the revenue to be touched, the accounts being regularly rendered and the balance paid punctually into the Oude treasury.

This was the so-often cited treaty of 1837, which the author declares to have been "wholly and absolutely disallowed by the Home Government"—that is to say, as he explains in a note, "by the Secret Committee, who had, by Act of Parliament, special powers in the matter of treaty-

making." Upon this treaty depends the case against the annexation of Oude in 1856. According to the letter of the law, by which governments are bound to adhere, the document, never having been ratified, had no legal existence, and the old treaty having been continually broken, the province could have been as justly absorbed in 1856 as at any time since 1801. But the unfortunate part of the business was that the abrogation of the treaty was never made known, and that years afterwards, even at the Residency, as shown by letters written by Colonel Sleeman to Sir James Hogg and Colonel Lowe, it was supposed to be valid. The fault appears to have been Lord Auckland's. "Wishing," says Mr. Kaye, "the annulment of the treaty to appear rather as an act of grace from the Government of India than as the result of positive and unconditional instructions from England," the Home Government "gave a large discretion to the mode of announcing this abrogation to the Court of Lucknow." The writer continues:—

The receipt of these orders disturbed and perplexed the Governor-General. Arrangements for the organization of the Oude auxiliary force had already advanced too far to admit of the suspension of the measure. It was a season, however, of difficulty and supposed danger, for the seeds of the Afghan war had been sown. Some, at least, of our regular troops in Oude were wanted to do our own work; so, in any view of the case, it was necessary to fill their places. The auxiliary force, therefore, was not to be arrested in its formation, but it was to be maintained at the Company's expense. Intimation to this effect was given to the King in a letter from the Governor-General, which, after acquainting his Majesty that the British Government had determined to relieve him of a burden which, in the existing state of the country, might have imposed heavier exactions on the people than they were well able to bear, expressed a strong hope that the King would see, in the relaxation of this demand, good reason for applying his surplus revenues, firstly, to the relief of oppressive taxation, and, secondly, to the prosecution of useful public works. But nothing was said, in this letter, about the abrogation of the entire treaty, nor was it desired that the Resident, in his conferences with the King or his minister, should say anything on that subject. The Governor-General, still hoping that the Home Government might be induced to consent to the terms of the treaty (the condition of the auxiliary force alone excluded), abstained from an acknowledgment which, he believed, would weaken the authority of his Government. But this was a mistake, and worse than a mistake. It betrayed an absence of moral courage not easily to be justified or forgiven. The Home Government never acknowledged the validity of any later treaty than that which Lord Wellesley had negotiated at the commencement of the century.

That Lord Auckland was entirely responsible in the matter we are willing to believe; but, if two authorities which ought to be in accord take an independent course, and the consequence is an entire misconstruction of an important measure of foreign policy, neither must be surprised if they hear the mistake described as a juggle by sceptical friends, and denounced as something worse by political opponents. Such has been the fate of the treaty of 1837, and, as if to crown the misfortunes attendant upon this disastrous document, it was actually included in a collection of treaties, owing to the mistake of a secretary. It is right, however, to add the following statement, which Mr. Kaye gives in a note:—

Much was attempted to be made out of this circumstance, but the mistake of an Under-Secretary cannot give validity to a treaty which the highest authorities refused to ratify. If Lord Auckland was unwilling to declare the nullity of the treaty because its nullification hurt the pride of his Government, the Home Government showed no such unwillingness, for in 1838 the following return was made to Parliament, under the signature of one of the Secretaries of the Board of Control:—"There has been no treaty concluded with the present King of Oude, which has been ratified by the Court of Directors, with the approbation of the Commissioners for the affairs of India.—(Signed) R. GORDON. India Board, 3rd July 1838."

Those who have had the best means of forming a judgment of the state of Oude under Wajad Ali—as has happened to the present writer—can testify to the oppressed and poverty-stricken condition to which it was reduced being in no way exaggerated by Mr. Kaye, and of the truth of the picture which he presents of the court, where "Fiddlers and dancers, singing men and eunuchs, were suffered to usurp the government and absorb the revenues of the country." The king, sunk in the depths of the most depraved indulgences, with an understanding emasculated to the point of childishness, revelled, in his more harmless moods, in infantine sports. Colonel Sleeman, always a determined foe of the annexation policy, drew up the most condemnatory report ever made of the state of anarchy to which the country was reduced; but his advice was:—"Assume the administration, but do not grasp the revenues of the country." Lord Dalhousie, in the plan which he proposed, went a step further—he was for the anomalous and almost irreconcilable course of assuming the administration, grasping the revenues, but leaving the king the nominal sovereignty. It was the Home Government which determined upon the "thorough" policy which was ultimately put in force with such disastrous consequences.

The bad feeling created by the annexation, notwithstanding the rigorous and inconsiderate administration which followed that of Outram, might, however, have given way to the influence of time, and the establishment of a rule that, at any rate, was to the advantage of the people, but for circumstances which combined to bring the general discontent to a crisis, and unite Mussulman and Hindoo upon one common ground of hostility. How the alarm had gradually seized upon the army Mr. Kaye well describes.

Many were the strange glosses which were given to the acts of the British Government; various were the ingenious fictions woven with the purpose of unsettling the minds and uprooting the fidelity of the Sepoy. But, diverse as they were in many respects, there was a certain unity about them, for they all tended to persuade him that our measures were directed to one common end, the destruction of Caste, and the general introduction of Christianity into the land. If we annexed a province, it was to facilitate our proselytizing operations, and to increase the number of our converts. Our resumption operations were instituted for the purpose of destroying all the religious endowments of the country. Our legislative enactments were all tending to the same result, the subversion of Hindooism and Mahomedanism. Our educational measures were so many direct assaults upon the religions of the country. Our penal system, according to their showing, disguised a monstrous attempt to annihilate caste, by compelling men of all denominations to feed together in the gaols. In the Lines of every regiment there were men eager to tell lies of this kind to the Sepoy, mingled with assurances that the time was coming when the Feringhees would be destroyed to a man; when a new empire would be established, and a new military system inaugurated, under which the high rank and the higher pay monopolized by the English would be transferred to the people of the country. We know so little of what is stirring in the depths of Indian society; we dwell so much apart from the people; we see so little of them, except in full dress and on their best behaviour, that perilous intrigues and desperate plots might be woven under the very shadow of our bungalows without our perceiving any symptoms of danger. But still less can we discern that quiet under-current of hostility which is continually flowing on without any immediate or definite object, and which, if we could discern it, would baffle all our efforts to trace it to its source. But it does not the less exist because we are ignorant of the form which it assumes, or the fount from which it springs. The men, whose business it was to corrupt the minds of our Sepoys, were, perhaps, the agents of some of the old princely houses which we had destroyed,* or members of old baronial families which we had brought to poverty and disgrace. They were, perhaps, the emissaries of Brahminical

* It was asserted at the time of the "Mutiny of Vellore," that not only were agents of the House of Tippoo busy in all the Lines of Southern India, but that there was scarcely a regiment into which they had not enlisted.

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Societies, whose precepts we were turning into folly, and whose power we were setting at naught. They were, perhaps, mere visionaries and enthusiasts, moved only by their own disordered imaginations to proclaim the coming of some new prophet or some fresh avatar of the Deity, and the consequent downfall of Christian supremacy in the East. But, whatsoever the nature of their mission, and whatsoever the guise they assumed, whether they appeared in the Lines as passing travellers, as journeying hawkers, as religious mendicants, or as wandering puppet-showmen—the seed of sedition which they scattered struck root in a soil well prepared to receive it, and waited only for the ripening sun of circumstance to develop a harvest of revolt.

The time seemed to have come when the long pent-up stream was to burst and overwhelm the British power. The Crimean war, and the Persian war which immediately followed, were supposed to have left us without resources either in men or money; and the alarm created by our accessions of dominion was increased by stories of our designs upon caste. The affair of the greased cartridges, which, like the annexation of Oude, might have “blown over,” was industriously used by political foes to do the sole work that was wanting. The alarm of the cartridges, so often described as a mere pretext, was a genuine moving cause as far as a large portion of the army was concerned; and whatever direction was wanting to the movement was supplied by the Nana Sahib. The claim of this man, usually considered unfounded, was, we fear, a just one, which the government would have done well to treat with consideration. But Lord Dalhousie had followed up his policy of annexing new territory by a policy of confiscating, upon various pretexts, the annuities which had been granted to the sufferers by former acts of confiscation. The Nana was one of these—by adoption, it is true; but adoption, as we have seen, is a law of the Hindoos as binding as lineal succession, and recognised by the British Government now as in former times. His agent Azimoolah—still remembered in London as the lion of a season, and the especial pet, as he proclaimed himself, of certain lion-hunting ladies—though unsuccessful in his mission, was excellently adapted for the part assigned to him as the Nana's representative and ally. A Mussulman by religion, as far as he had any faith at all, he could not only assist his master, but he could assist himself. Between the two, both classes of natives might be acted upon; and, to the extent of setting fire to the train, they no doubt succeeded. The career of Azimoolah was brought to a close at Lucknow, where he is said to have been killed, the fate of the Nana still remaining doubtful, though there are not wanting decided assertions of his death, strengthened by the failure to prove the identity of more than one pretender to his name.

Of the sinister rumours which marked the early part of 1857 Mr. Kaye thus speaks:—

It is a fact that there is a certain description of news which travels in India, from one station to another, with a rapidity almost electric. Before the days of the “lightning post” there was sometimes intelligence in the Bazaars of the Native dealers and the Lines of the Native soldiers, especially if the news imported something disastrous to the British, days before it reached, in any official shape, the high functionaries of Government.* We cannot trace the progress of these evil-tidings. The Natives of India have an expressive saying that “it is in the air.” It often happened that an uneasy feeling—an impression that something had happened, though they “could not discern the shape thereof”—pervaded men's minds, in obscure anticipation of the news that was travelling towards them in all its tangible proportions. All along the line of road, from town to town, from village to village, were thousands to whom the feet of those who brought the glad tidings were beautiful and welcome. The British magistrate, returning from

his evening ride, was perhaps met on the road near the Bazaar by a venerable Native on an ambling pony—a Native respectable of aspect, with white beard and whiter garments, who salaamed to the English gentleman as he passed, and went on his way freighted with intelligence refreshing to the souls of those to whom it was to be communicated, to be used with judgment and sent on with despatch. This was but one of many costumes worn by the messenger of evil. In whatsoever shape he passed there was nothing outwardly to distinguish him. Next morning there was a sensation in the Bazaar, and a vague excitement in the Sepoys' Lines. But, when rumours of disaster reached the houses of the chief English officers, they were commonly discredited. Their own letters were silent on the subject. It was not likely to be true, they said, as they had heard nothing about it. But it was true; and the news had travelled another hundred miles whilst the white gentlemen, with bland scepticism, were shaking their heads over the lies of the Bazaar.

The “Chupattee” and “Lotah” movement, the growing disaffection caused by the greased cartridges and the flour declared to be bone-dust, and the outbreaks at Berhampore, Barrackpore, and in Oude, are well described in the latter part of the volume, which brings us down to the eve of the terrible 10th of May, when the rising at Meerut set the north-west in a flame. We have already expressed our appreciation of the admirable arrangement of the material, which could not have been better treated up to this point. The next volume will record more exciting events, and will probably interest a wider circle of readers; but it can scarcely have the same value as the present one, and should not be read except by its light. S. L. B.

AN ARTIST-EXPLORER.

Explorations in South-west Africa: being an Account of a Journey in the Years 1861 and 1862 from Walvisch Bay, on the Western Coast, to Lake Ngami and the Victoria Falls. By Thomas Baines, F.R.G.S., formerly attached to the North Australian Expedition, and subsequently to that of Dr. Livingstone on the Zambesi. (Longman & Co.)

AFRICAN explorers formerly exhibited a very small variety as a class. With the exception of Bruce, who was a scholar and a gentleman, they were muscular and ignorant, enduring prodigious hardships, and writing very dull books. But, in these days, we have the missionary explorer, who crosses Africa with the Bible under one arm and the ledger under the other, preaching cotton and Christianity; the sporting explorer, who waltzes with hippopotami, hides with lions on his crupper, and dodges between an elephant's fore-legs; the scientific explorer, who paints things as they are, not as they ought to be, takes infinite trouble with his facts, and is, of course, abused and disbelieved; the sensational explorer, who forges routes and fabricates adventures, prepares monkeys and mountains to order, and is always patronized by the Geographical Society; and the *flâneur* explorer, who lounges through the virgin forest in kid-gloves, and knocks off his cigar-ash against a cannibal's door-post. Finally, we have two lady-explorers attempting to flirt with the sources of the Nile; and a book on Africa from an artist-explorer, the first of his kind, is now before us.

In 1858 Mr. Baines, already known as an Australian traveller, was appointed artist to the Zambesi expedition under Dr. Livingstone, from whom he parted at Tete, a Portuguese town on the eastern coast. On recovering from a severe illness he resolved to explore the interior for himself; and, in March 1861, he started, in the company of a Mr. Chapman, from Walvisch Bay, on the south-western coast, with the intention of striking into the Zambesi river and following it down to the sea. In July 1862 they reached the Victoria Falls, whence fever, famine, and the murder of many of their attendants compelled them to return.

As a painter of African scenery and native figures Mr. Baines has achieved a great success; and it is to be hoped that the

public will have an opportunity of becoming better acquainted with his pictures. As an artist he has chosen a new field; but, as an author, he works upon barren and well-trodden ground. The route from Walvisch Bay to Lake Ngami affords few materials for an interesting book. The features of the country have already been amply described by Anderssohn and Galton, and a hundred writers have repeated the same small batch of facts on the Namaquas, Damaras, and Bechuanas. They anoint themselves with fat and red clay, adorn themselves with iron, glass, shells, leather thongs, and the kidneys of the meerkat, compared with whose odours the polecat is perfume. They always lie, except when ordered by their chief (from motives of policy) to tell the truth. Their language has no equivalent for “thanks.” They beg when you are looking, and steal when you are not; do everything which is dirty, and commit everything which is cruel. This amiable race can only interest those who have a morbid taste for the most debased specimens of their kind (as some vitiated palates prefer strong and acrid *plats*), and who neglect misery at home to succour bestiality abroad.

One may, in fact, pretty well predict to the traveller what will happen to him by such a route. In the first place, he will be sure to have trouble with his oxen. One ox at least in a team is invariably a “jibber,” and he will be able to write down in his diary how long he was being flogged, and how he went on when he had had enough of it. This is a stock page in every South-African book. Then we have the inevitable row with the Hottentots. These gentlemen, who from the first have shown a penchant for the white man's *swarmwaters*—from the Eau-de-Cologne which he uses to counteract the meerkat to the camphorated spirit in which he drowns his specimens—at length get gloriously drunk, insolent, mutinous, and refuse to budge a step. Then the author writes down in his diary how long they were being flogged, and how they went on when they had had enough of it. Next the waggon goes wrong; the author turns amateur smith and carpenter, describes some ingenious contrivance of his own, quotes the proverb “Necessity is the mother of invention,” and continues his journey and his journal. Then we have the lion's track firmly imprinted in the sand, and the lying out for elephants, which go away “evidently hard hit,” and which are found the next day by the dogs or the vultures. The *thirst* event is never failing to a work of this kind; and, while sympathizing deeply with these gallant men, one cannot help wishing that there was less sameness in their sufferings. One knows beforehand all about it: they would have perished had they not found a juicy root called *markwal*; and, just as they were on the point of despair, they come to a *vlei*, the country changes, and water becomes abundant. Throw in some wait-a-bit thorns, some exciting chases after springboks or giraffes, or some “good runs” of an elephant or a black rhinoceros after them, and such is a volume of explorations in South-western Africa.

But it would be unfair to blame Mr. Baines because he has not had the chance of writing a very entertaining book. It is our duty to examine his qualifications as a traveller, and to criticize the use which he makes of such materials as fortune affords him. As a traveller we have no reason to find fault with him; he seems able to wield the rifle, the adze, and the hatchet almost as well as he handles the pencil. We find him building with his own hands two copper boats, making cartridges for his breech-loader: turning an ale-case into an iron-covered chest, forging a hammer for his friend's gun and *velschoens* on a new principle for his own feet, turning his hand to everything—photographing, taking observations, sketching, and collecting specimens of plants and birds. As a man we find him modest, giving to his companion credit for all he should, always cheerful, and not like some travellers—describing

* The news of the first outbreak and massacre at Cabul, in 1841, and also of the subsequent destruction of the British army in the Pass, reached Calcutta through the Bazaars of Meerut and Kurnal some days before they found their way to Government House from any official quarter; and the mutiny at Barrackpore was known by the Sepoys of the British force proceeding to Burmah before it reached the military and political chiefs by special express.

every fit of depression to which he may have been subject. As a writer he does his best to build bricks with very little straw, describes everything which he sees, and evidently observes well. Artists almost invariably do; and his description of the Victoria Falls is perhaps the best word-picture of African scenery which has yet appeared. To quote from it would be to mutilate: the reader is recommended to read it for himself. We will, however, give a good piece of description, which may serve as a specimen of what the author might do with favourable opportunities; and we hope that Mr. Baines will continue the career which he has so well begun and earn a great and novel reputation as artist-explorer.

Traversing a length of hill and dale, which now seemed wearisome enough, we passed the vlei, scarcely disturbing the wild-fowl on its placid surface, and a few hundred yards beyond came in sight of the gigantic carcass looming like a gray granite boulder above the bush. Of course I have seen elephants, but it has always been at my home and not in theirs, and neither picture nor well-groomed black-skinned show-specimens from India I had ever seen had quite prepared me to stand, for the first time, without a sensation of awe and wonder beside the mighty African, fallen in all his native grandeur in his domain. Masses of earth had been upturned by his broad feet; his column-like legs were stiffened in his tracks; the tusk upon the lower side was buried in the soil; the head and curling trunk were extended forward, leaving his broad forehead (flat, or even convex, and not channelled in the centre like that of the Indian, and as represented in all the pictures I have yet seen, those of Harris even seeming to have been influenced by his Indian experience) nearly in a line with his body. The ears, which, in the African, are of huge size, covered, with their upper part, nearly half the neck, the hindmost angle reaching to the death-spot behind the shoulder, and the lower descending nearly to a level with the chest. The rough gray side, deeply marked with wrinkles crossing each other like a network destitute of hair, except a solitary bristle here and there, rose, more like a rock than the skin of a lately living animal, so high that I could barely see the head of a man beyond it—a dark purple stain upon the lower side of the chest alone indicating the manner of his death, the bullets having entered on the side now in contact with the ground.

W. W. R.

THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE.

The Holy Roman Empire. By James Bryce, B.A. (Macmillan & Co.)

ENGLISHMEN entertain a prejudice against philosophic histories. Nor is the feeling quite without just grounds; for authors who write history with a theory are apt to pay so much attention to their favourite generalizations that they have neither much time nor inclination for the tiresome work of investigating facts, and at the best are prone to leave out of sight those awkward circumstances which throw doubt on the validity of some historical law. It is, therefore, with some hesitation that we recommend Mr. Bryce's work to the public as a model of philosophical history. To dispel the prejudice which this eulogy might excite it is fair to add that he has collected together, into some 150 pages, a greater mass of facts than are often found in bulky volumes, and that, though he writes history philosophically, he, happily for himself and his readers, does not attempt to set forth any philosophy of history. He neither traces out the progress of humanity nor justifies the ways of Providence. What he does attempt, and with singular success, is to paint the nature of institutions which have now ceased to exist in name, and which ceased to exist in reality centuries before their outward form passed away. The problem which Mr. Bryce and all those who investigate the subject of which he treats are forced to face is the question how it happened that a power which, in Voltaire's time, could be truly said to be neither "holy," nor "Roman," nor "an empire," should have existed from century to century and at certain periods both have been all that it claimed to be and have com-

manded the admiring veneration of Europe. Mr. Bryce finds the solution of the riddle in a careful historical analysis of the sentiments and principles which ruled those ages during which the Holy Roman Empire was a real power among men. In so doing he traces out the various changes by which institutions which continued the same in name altered their real nature, and yet, throughout all their various alterations, preserved a strange kind of identity. Nothing but a careful perusal of his masterly essay can give an adequate idea either of the results at which he arrives or of the skill with which a multitude of small facts are grouped together so as to fully justify and bear out his conclusions. It may, however, be possible to give ordinary readers some idea of the nature of his work by examining his account of the rise of the Empire as well as his analysis of some of the causes which led to the maintenance of the Empire when the reasons for its foundation seemed to have passed away.

"The bestowal of the purple on Charles the Great was," writes Mr. Bryce, "not really that translation of the empire from the Greeks to the Franks which it was afterwards described as. It was not meant to settle the office in one nation or one dynasty: there was but an extension of that principle of the equality of all Romans which had made Trajan and Maximian emperors. The *arcanum imperii posse principem alibi quam Romæ fieri* had become *alium quam Romanum*. The senate, people, and pontiff of the capital had, in the vacancy of the Eastern throne, re-asserted their ancient rights of election, and, while attempting to reverse the act of Constantine, had re-established the division of Valentinian."

In other words—and this is the one predominant idea which runs throughout all Mr. Bryce's speculations—the men of the Middle Ages looked upon the Roman Empire as a thing which had never ceased to exist. In the disorders of the time the desire of every thinking man—the almost instinctive impulse of every one who had power to act—was to curb the prevailing anarchy. The only organized society of which the world then knew was the Roman Empire. To recover the lost order, to return if possible to the rule of law, was the one effort of all reformers. "The men of the fifth century refused to believe in the dissolution of the empire which they saw with their own eyes. Because it could not die, it lived." Hence Charles the Great was, to his generation, the real successor of all the Cæsars; and, in spite of some great points of contrast, his rule was a genuine, though merely temporary, restoration of the Roman Empire. Mr. Bryce describes the gradual steps by which the system of government founded or restored by Charles altered its character, until, under Otto the Great, it presented a strange mixture of half feudal, half imperial characteristics, and became what to modern minds seems a mere combination of anomalies, but what to the men of the Middle Ages appeared the actual representation of a theory of government well described as "medieval imperialism"—a theory resting on "three leading principles: the first, the existence of the state as a monarchy; the second, the exact coincidence of the state limits, and the perfect harmony of its workings with the limits and workings of the Church; the third, its universality." How strong was the hold of this theory on the mind of Europe is seen by the fact of the Empire continuing to exist in name after the great Interregnum, when "it might, and, so far as its practical utility was concerned, ought to have, passed away." The causes which prevented its termination lay deep in the feelings of the time. The age was full of "historical antiquarianism," of which Mr. Bryce gives many curious specimens.

This antiquarianism appears in trivial expressions, as when a monkish chronicler says of evil bishops deposed, *Tribu moti sunt*, or talks of the "Senate and people of the Franks" when he means a council of chiefs surrounded by a crowd of half-naked warriors. So throughout Europe charters and edicts were drawn up on Roman

precedents; the trade-guilds, though often traceable to a different source, represented the old *collegia*; villenage was the offspring of the system of *coloni* under the later empire. Even in remote Britain the Teutonic invaders used Roman ensigns, stamped their coins with Roman devices, and called themselves "Basileis" and "Augusti."

The force, indeed, of the imperial sentiment is seen most strongly in the fact that the emperor's nominal authority increased in proportion to the diminution of his real power. No laws could bind the emperor, no court could judge him; to question his motives was almost blasphemy. Such was the language held by theorists at a time "when Frederick III. was wandering from convent to convent an imperial beggar." Henry VII.'s career is, however, to use Mr. Bryce's words, "the most remarkable illustration of the emperor's position." When he entered Italy with a scanty following of knights, he carried everything before him for a time by the mere influence of his name, till, at length, his foes ventured to break through the trammels of an imaginative reverence, and proved how little real power might lie concealed behind high-sounding prerogatives. What, however, will always lend lustre to Henry's advent into Italy, and will remain a lasting monument of the sentiment of the age, is the "De Monarchia" with which Dante welcomed his arrival. This book is, indeed, "an epitaph instead of a prophecy," but an epitaph so remarkable that we greatly regret we cannot, do not, do more than analyse the analysis given of it by Mr. Bryce. Dante proves that monarchy is the true form of government; that peace is the state in which men's objects are best attained; and that this is possible only under a monarch. Abstract arguments from the fact that, in every system of forces, there must be a *primum mobile*, that man is happiest when most free, and can be free only under a monarch, are confirmed by deductions from history, of which the following may serve as a specimen:—

Since the world began there has been but one period of perfect peace—that, namely, which existed at our Lord's birth. Since then the heathen have raged and the kings of the earth have stood up; they have set themselves against their Lord and His anointed, the Roman Prince. Christ's birth and death, it is added, ratified the Roman government; for Christian doctrine requires that Pilate should have been a lawful judge, which he was not, unless Tiberius was a lawful emperor.

The "De Monarchia" would of itself be sufficient to establish Mr. Bryce's theory as to the feelings of the age in which it was written. He, however, accumulates proof on proof, and traces with wonderful subtilty the steps by which the sentiments which had supported the empire died away. Readers interested in historical speculations will do well to examine carefully this portion of his work, for he brings out into clear relief one of the most important and most neglected of the many conclusions suggested by the study of past ages. It is this—that the ideas, no less than the customs of men, undergo a first change which appears incredible to persons who have never examined into the growth of opinions. What are self-evident truths to men of one era may appear self-evident falsehoods to the men of another. Each age has certain axioms which it assumes, rightly or wrongly, to be unquestionably true because they appear unquestionable; they are never questioned, and therefore the peculiar principles of each period of history are never clearly realized till they have begun to be displaced by others. That arguments drawn from Cicero and Virgil could prove nothing about the rights of Henry VII. never occurred to Dante, and chains of reasoning which appear conclusive to men of the nineteenth century may, in like manner, appear utterly inconclusive to their descendants. That Mr. Bryce thus shows by endless examples the constant change in human opinions entitles him to a place among philosophic historians.

12 NOVEMBER, 1864.

RELIGIOUS HISTORICAL ROMANCES.

Sketches of Christian Life in England in the Olden Time. By the Author of "Chronicles of the Schonberg-Cotta Family," &c., &c. (Nelson and Sons.)

Campion Court: a Tale of the Days of the Ejectment Two Hundred Years Ago. By Emma Jane Worboise. (Virtue Brothers & Co.)

Thornycroft Hall: its Owners and its Heirs. By Emma Jane Worboise. (Jackson, Walford, and Hodder.)

ANY work by the author of "The Schonberg-Cotta Family" is sure to have numerous readers on both sides of the Atlantic. That gentle pietistic narrative of the Reformation and life of Luther has enjoyed a popularity far beyond that which generally falls to the lot of semi-religious fiction from the simplicity of its style and its verisimilitude to fact, two qualities which eminently distinguish the writings of the author. "The Sketches of Christian Life in England in the Olden Time" form, as it were, a first portion of the history of Christianity in Northern Europe, of which the Schonberg-Cotta Chronicles are the completion to the period of the Reformation—the first showing Christianity in Britain in its various phases, from its first planting in Cornwall by the Syro-Grecian converts, who were exiled into slavery to work the mines during the persecution under Domitian, after the banishment of St. John to Patmos and of Flavia Domitilla, the daughter of the consul Clemens, to Pontia.

The history of Romanized Britain seems scarcely to have more connexion with the history of England and Englishmen than the history of the geological convulsions which preceded it. Indeed, in some respects it has much less. The succession of fishy and vegetable occupants of our shores have left their indelible traces on our fossil rocks, our coal-beds, our alluvial plains. The Roman possessors of our country swept over it like a passing wave, leaving no traces imbedded in the foundations of our social life. We are in no sense their descendants or their heirs. A great historical chasm separates those centuries of foreign and superficial civilization from the rough and real Saxon times which followed them. Convulsed, and invaded, and devastated as our country continued to be for many centuries, the continuity of its history is never again utterly broken after the establishment of the first Saxon kingdom. Those Northern seamen, those Kentish, and Northumbrian, and West Saxon kings are substantial living men to us. They are our flesh and blood. But Boadicea and Caractacus are almost as shadowy to us as the Roxane or Andromaque of the French stage. If even, by a severe mental effort, we succeed in convincing ourselves of their existence, their existence has little more to do with us than that of their contemporaries in Rome or Alexandria.

The authoress, in conformity with this idea, passes rapidly over the Roman period, and lingers with evident fondness in that of the Anglo-Saxons. The narrative is given in ten consecutive stories, each forming a perfect episode in itself, touching, however, but slightly upon the Papal usurpations in Britain, and treating of the first Christians in Britain—the martyrdom of St. Alban, the conversion of the Anglo-Saxons, the Crusades, and the followers of Wickliffe and the Lollards. There is no overstraining at effect, no attempt at fine writing. The dialogue, necessarily quaint as embodying habits of thought and expressions of a long by-gone period, never degenerates into a vulgar display of obsolete words and phraseology, yet never loses itself in forgetfulness of the past. The characters are not dressed up lay figures; their individuality is always well-sustained; and the reader becomes irresistibly mixed up with the scene in which they move. To attempt to extract the plot of these clever sketches would be futile, and destroy the pleasure of perusal of the original. A spirit of simple faith and piety permeates the whole, which, as in the former work of the authoress, cannot be conveyed by selecting disjointed portions from either.

"Campion Court," the residence of Sir Antony Mordaunt and his family, is situated

at Cleve-super-Mare, in the vicinity of Bristol. It is an old mansion, with a suite of rooms "long disused, half empty," and very uncomfortable as a portion of one's home, but very romantic as possessing a large chamber hung with decayed tapestry, and "having for its furniture only a huge bed of faded magnificence, and a cumbrous but worm-eaten oak table." Moreover, the chimney-piece being elaborately carved into a representation of Queen Esther and Ahasuerus, the monarch's sceptre contains a spring which, being pressed, removes a panel, disclosing "a narrow passage and a steep narrow staircase beyond." A heavy door at top opens upon a small room bearing signs of habitation long years ago, and is the secret chamber in the Sydney Tower, all access to which, it was supposed, had been securely walled up. The rambles of little Mistress Muriel, the youngest of the knight's daughters, in quest of something to do one wet day, results in her attempt to dust the carving and consequent discovery of the concealed spring. This secret is at length revealed by her to her eldest sister, Mistress Amabel, on the 5th of September, 1658, when the news of Cromwell's death was brought to them by their brother Phillip. The young girl, foreseeing that troubled days would follow, entreats Amabel to go with her to the "east-rooms," and reconnoitre for herself this safe retreat, saying, "I am not such a child as ye all think me; I have pondered the matter well, and it striketh me with marvellous force that, now that the Lord High Protector is taken away, troublous times will arise again, and we must bear us like the godly women of olden time, like the maidens of Israel in the days of the Maccabees; and then, methinks, this secret chamber that I have found may be the refuge of some holy man, or of some dear friend of one of us, or all of us, whom the sons of Belial hunt for his life." As this cumbrous phraseology falls from the lips of a very lovely merry-hearted child, the ponderous utterances of the grown-up characters in the story remind one of the unhappy condition of that foreigner, who is supposed to understand one's meaning if we speak to him in the worst English we can fabricate for the occasion, and in the loudest of voices endeavour to penetrate the recesses of his understanding. This tale "of the days of the Ejectment two hundred years ago" is a sad catalogue of unrighteous acts and deeds committed, as the author believes, by the State against the Nonconformists of that time.

The story, set within the heavy framework of religious persecution, relates chiefly to the Mordaunt family, and the retreat which Campion Court affords to such of the knight's friends as needed concealment or succour. The adventures of the beautiful Muriel, who marries her dying lover within the walls of Bristol gaol, and afterwards journeys up to London to gain access to the king, personally to plead for the release of her husband from unjust confinement, give Miss Worboise scope for a description of the young wife's romantic escape from Glade Lodge and the passionate admiration of the royal reprobate Charles II. Muriel does not see the king again till after her husband's death in Newgate, when one of a group of gentlemen, "richly attired, but pale, begrimed, and haggard," gazing, like Sir Antony and herself, upon the magnificent spectacle of St. Paul's in a sheet of flame, turns round, and Muriel stands face to face with that monarch. During the great plague of the previous year, when churchmen fled appalled, and Nonconformists performed their terrible duties for them, Muriel had braved the pestilence, and now she stands fascinated by the burning of the doomed cathedral in the great fire of London. Long years afterwards, when telling her granddaughter of this fearful time, Muriel says: "But what did grieve me most, Kate, was to see Newgate, where my husband's last days were spent, burnt to the ground. I knew it was a dismal and noisome prison, and it was well that it should be swept away; and yet, as I heard the great

stones splintering with the fervent heat, and beheld the smoke of it rushing up to heaven, my heart was sad within me, and I would fain have seen once more the little chamber where my husband and I lived for well-nigh four months." We fear this is a slight mistake, as Newgate was not "burnt down to the ground" till the Lord George Gordon riots in 1780, though greatly injured by the fire.

The author is so thoroughly in earnest that she will have many readers and admirers amongst the Nonconformists, for whom the tale seems solely written, coloured, as it is, throughout, irrespective of facts, to suit their views. The book contains 430 closely printed pages, too many of which are exclusively devoted to the exposition of the Ejectment and its consequences, a subject which the year 1862, it appears to us, seems thoroughly to have exhausted.

"Thornycroft Hall," a domestic tale, is the best story, to our mind, that Miss Worboise has yet written. The warped and distorted views and facts which pervade "Campion Court" as a sectarian historical novel are not here obtruded offensively in the details of home life. Indeed, some admissions are made that indicate more enlarged views than the author's previous works would lead the reader to expect. Thus, in speaking of a minister who has received a handsome private fortune, Miss Worboise, who ventilates her opinions through the autobiography of her heroine Ellen Threlkeld, remarks—

But, I am very sorry to say, Mr. Hearn's altered circumstances had an effect on his people which was perhaps more natural than praiseworthy. Straightway he became a very great man. It was amazing how much depth they discovered in his sermons, how they enjoyed his eloquence, how they appreciated his earnestness, how they proclaimed far and wide his super-excellent qualities as a pastor, a private Christian, a friend, &c., &c.—after he became the happy possessor of a clear income of fifteen hundred pounds per annum! More amazing still, they immediately consulted on the expediency of raising his salary!—being a Nonconformist myself, I am ashamed to say what it was before; one does not care to talk about the defects of one's own household to all the world, you know;—and they chanted his praises all over the country, when he gracefully but firmly declined any further addition to his income.

Ellen Threlkeld is the orphan daughter of the vicar of Battlebarrow, and at ten years of age is removed to the guardianship of her aunt, Mrs. Ward, of Thornycroft Hall, far away from her northern home. Two years of severe trial and false accusation, arising from the violent temper and stern mind of Mrs. Ward, so injure the child's moral worth that, by the advice of Mrs. Cleaton, Mr. Ward's sister, the little girl is entrusted to her care and conveyed "to Casterton, the beautiful village about a mile and a half from Kirby-Londale, where there is an excellent institution called 'The Clergy Daughters' School.'" This "is the 'Lowood' of that most powerful and world-renowned novel 'Jane Eyre,'" but "was no 'Do-the-girls Hall,' as some people have asserted," founded by the Rev. William Carus Wilson, to whom the author renders warm and grateful testimony for "his works of love and mercy, which were manifold." The result of this peaceful training and discipline upon the outraged child is to eradicate the evil of her nature which her aunt's treatment had aroused; so that, when required to enter on life's duties, Ellen Threlkeld is felt by Mrs. Ward and her family to be a high-principled, dependable girl, to whom they all look for help, when the illness and death of Mr. Ward call the orphan from her retreat.

Thornycroft Hall, by the will of her grandfather, is left to Maria Ward, an imperious young lady, the counterpart of her mother, with the condition that her cousin Marshall Cleaton shall become her husband. This boon the young man is compelled to decline, Maria's character not being to his taste, and consequently, his position in life being changed, he enters a mercantile house as clerk, and, with his mother, resides in a

comfortless terrace at Kennington. To this lady's death-bed Ellen Threlkeld is summoned, and at length returns to Thornycroft, the betrothed of Marshall Cleaton, who has decided on becoming a Nonconformist minister, and refuses the offer of his aunt Isabella, a rich eccentric widow, to settle him in life. "You shall return to Oxford at my expense," she says, "and study for your theological or divinity examination, or whatever you call it, and, as soon as you are ordained, you may get married; for, though a mere curacy may not bring you in anything worth mentioning, I will take care that you have a sufficient—nay, a handsome income—an income befitting your position as my adopted son, and my heir—for that you shall be, Marshall Cleaton." But Marshall Cleaton says—

"I must decline to take orders in the Episcopal Church of England. I have devoted myself to the ministry of the Nonconformist section of the Church of England. But, in so declining, I evince no enmity, no uncharitableness, towards that other section of Conformity. The Church of England, as by law established, numbers among her children, among her pastors, thousands of God's saints; and I find much within her pale which is pure and sublime, and much that is worthy of the imitation of Nonconformists. You must forgive me, aunt Isabella, but I must, I must indeed, serve God with a pure heart; I must minister before Him with clean hands in this as well as in the matter of Thornycroft Hall. I must do that which is right. Do not be angry, aunt; I have no alternative: it would be unchristian, unmanly, to act otherwise."

"How can I help being angry? I hate Dissent; though I must say your father and mother were as good specimens of Christianity as I ever saw. I have seen something of Dissenting ministers; so be warned in time. Only a few—the popular ones—get anything like a living: the rest are at the mercy of their people, who can drive them away and starve them if they like; and they are specially at the mercy of coarse-minded men, who, armed with the petty authority of office, can oppress and insult them in a way that would ensure them a thorough horsewhipping in the world, and among men of business. I hate those creatures called deacons—a sort of perpetual churchwardens, I believe, endowed with plenary powers to legislate, advise, caution, lecture, or insult their pastor at discretion."

So the lovers separate, Ellen returning to her aunt and cousins at Thornycroft, keeping secret her engagement, to escape Maria's malignity. That young lady, having quickly assumed the reins of government, talks of "my house, my carriage, my servants," &c. in grand style, and lords it over the household in which the dreaded Mrs. Ward is now a cipher. A codicil to the grandfather's will is, however, in Mrs. Ward's possession, which she has guiltily suppressed, whereby Marshall Cleaton was to inherit the estate without any condition. The existence of this codicil comes by accident to Ellen's knowledge, but, from circumstances, cannot be acted upon till long after her marriage with Marshall Cleaton. After a time he is enriched by the death of aunt Isabella, who leaves him her heir, and then both he and Ellen are summoned to the death-bed of Mrs. Ward at Thornycroft. Restitution and repentance weigh heavily on the sick lady, to whom Ellen discloses her acquaintance with the secret, and, being absolved of her solemn promise, tells her husband his true position. Marshall Cleaton resolves to burn the codicil and shield his aunt from shame and obloquy, upon which Mrs. Ward's illness gives way, and she recovers health and strength, and passes the remainder of her life in the society of her once-despised niece. Wholly changed by her nephew's noble conduct, and dwelling near them in the north, where his ministry lay, the proud, fierce mother becomes a humble Christian woman. How Marshall Cleaton might have looked at things if he had still been bringing up a family and fighting the world upon £270 per annum—the amount of their united income in earlier days—our author does not say; but, when folks can afford to be generous, it is very pleasant to let generosity have its way.

Too frequent quotation of lines and verses still mars the effect of the author's fluent writing, as we had once before occasion to remark; but the present story is less interrupted by this defect than many of her previous tales. There is much truth, force, and healthy religious feeling in "Thornycroft Hall;" the characters are well defined, and the action of the tale vigorous and of strong interest.

THE AMERICAN WAR AND RELIGIOUS PHILANTHROPY.

The Sanitary Commission of the United States Army: a Succinct Narrative of its Works and Purposes. (New York. 1864.)

The United States Sanitary Commission. (Boston, U.S.: Little, Brown, & Co. 1863.)

Military, Medical, and Surgical Essays, prepared for the United States Sanitary Commission. Edited by W. A. Hammond, M.D., Surgeon-General U.S. Army. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. 1864.)

Military Discipline and Volunteer Philanthropy. A Paper read before the Social Science Congress, held in the City of York, 1864. By E. C. Fisher. (Ridgway.)

United States Christian Commission. Reports for 1862 and 1863. (Philadelphia.)

IT is so natural and reasonable to regard war as an evil, that we are not too ready to see or to attempt to estimate the good that may be traced to it. The direct action of war is to produce miseries which ought to make any man slow to bring them upon his own country or to inflict them upon another. It is probably undesirable to neutralize such a reluctance by any other consideration than that of what is due to national honour. But, when war has become necessary, it cannot be wrong to find some comfort in any benefits of which it is indirectly the cause. And that wars have been in many important respects highly beneficial to nations and to mankind has been recognised by all students of history. In our own day, whilst the destructiveness of war has been immensely increased, and the general mind has become far more sensitive to the pain and loss which war inflicts, we cannot help seeing that the balance of good on the other side has also decidedly risen. In the great conflict now going on in America, the destructive effects of war, wrought on so tremendous a scale, are those which have been most fully reported to us; but there are signs that the war is also doing, less conspicuously, a work of social purification; and these signs are not so familiar to us in England. For this reason we invite the attention of our readers to some aspects of the American war which we find in the publications named at the head of this article.

The Sanitary Commission of the United States army is not unknown by name in this country, having been frequently mentioned in the letters of newspaper-correspondents. But the details of its origin and labours, which may be found in the books and reports forwarded to us by the London agent of the Commission, are well worthy of the study of those who are interested either in practical philanthropy, or in the management of armies, or in the social condition of the United States. It is impossible to contemplate what has been done by the voluntary activity of the people of the Northern States through the Sanitary Commission without sincere respect and admiration. This Commission is a body of much greater importance than that which is called the "Christian Commission," and its executive occupies a higher social position than the Committee of the latter society. But, partly because the Christian Commission is a less conspicuous movement, and partly on account of its special religious features, we propose to describe its work at somewhat greater length by the help of its recent Report.

The constitution of this "Christian Commission," and the style of its reports, are not of a nature to secure it the most respectful hearing on this side of the Atlantic. It is a

sort of Committee of Christian Young Men's Associations, and its religious language is the dialect of revivalists, touched up with the "tall talk" peculiar to America. But the doings of which the Report tells are certainly interesting and remarkable. It records accompaniments of war which were unknown until the present generation, and which have never been seen before on so large a scale. We English, in the Crimean war, set the first example of what the Christian Commission is doing on an organized plan in America. Every one remembers how the kindly heart of the nation was touched by what we heard of the condition of our army in the Crimea, and in what novel, and sometimes amusing, forms our sympathy was shown; how the camp was flooded with mince-pies and plum-puddings, with comforters and stockings, with books and tracts and stationery. Many can remember, too, what a remarkable development of religious feeling and religious activity occurred at that time in the army. Chaplains and religious laymen have testified that they never knew anything like the devoutness which prevailed amongst the officers and the common soldiers who were daily risking their lives and seeing their comrades fall before Sebastopol. The report of the Christian Commission presents a similar state of things on the American scale. This body was constituted by a convention of delegates from Young Men's Christian Associations, held at New York on November 16th, 1861, and its object was "to promote the spiritual and temporal welfare of the officers and men of the United States Army and Navy, in co-operation with chaplains and others." The work of the Commission grew rapidly; and, taking it as representing especially the religious class which supplies "Christian young men"—a class more important, probably, in America than amongst ourselves—we must say that that work reveals an amount of ardent sympathy and lavish liberality, a unity of national feeling, a high pressure of religious enthusiasm, and a quickness and adroitness of organizing faculty, which may well make the Northern Americans confident in themselves and their cause. We know what the secretaries of religious societies can do in the way of manipulating their facts; but any one of our editorial secretaries might sigh with envy in contemplating the unquestionable materials which the Christian Commission are enabled to exhibit to their friends.

The tone of the whole Report is that of almost joyous excitement. The war is recognised as terrible, but there is a grandeur in its magnitude and in its incidents which causes the American mind to swell with delight. The eye travels with irrepressible pride round the "immense war-belt," "the whole war circle, the entire length of the Alleghanies and the great Western rivers down to the Crescent city, and around, up again, all along the coast back to the national capital." The events of the war, and the works of the Christian Commission, are related with a poetic enthusiasm, and the names and actions of Mr. A., and Mrs. Judge B., and Miss C. are glorified with praises, which unfortunately must often seem to the English palate deficient in good taste. But the fervour is genuine, and has shown itself in acts for which the American armies have been, and have had good reason to be, very grateful. The government supplies, according to the statements of the Commission, have been ample, and have provided not only for the bodily but also for the spiritual needs of the soldiers. It does not appear how religious difficulties are overcome, but a chaplain is appointed for every regiment—more, by the way, than has ever been done in our own army. The aim of the Christian Commission has been to fill up inevitable gaps in the government system, but especially to supply the soldiers with all imaginable comforts as voluntary gifts from their sympathizing friends at home. The agent of the Commission must have often appeared to the wounded or exhausted

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men like a blessed angel from heaven. In one place, after fighting hard on a hot day, there would be a sudden distribution of "a thousand glasses of lemonade." The wounded, when carried to the rear, would find themselves unexpectedly comforted with buckets of milk punch, or unlimited hot coffee with milk and sugar, and slices of bread with butter and preserves. In the cold weather, all conceivable articles of warm dress would be lavished on the army without stint. Kind-hearted men and women have vied with one another in rendering personal service. The following summary describes the work of the Commission in their own language:—

Thus we have been sustained, supplied, and cheered on in our warfare of peace and battles of love; and God has given us the arduous work and unbounded luxury of such a service for Him, for our country, and for our soldiers as seldom falls to the lot of mortal men. Wounded heroes on the battle-field have been rescued from death and given back to the nation and to their families. Those wearied, worn, and exhausted, on long marches and from hard fighting, have been refreshed and saved from perishing. Bread has been dealt to the hungry, clothing to the needy, medicine to the sick, delicacies to the convalescing, and cheer to all. Prisoners at Richmond, victims of hunger, cold, vermin, and filth, have been relieved and supplied with food, clothing, medicine, and reading matter. Men in the field, far away from church and church privileges, and from the press and its issues, have had the Gospel preached to them, and Testaments, books, papers, and tracts given them upon Gospel terms. Those long absent from home have been brought nigh in many ways, by visits of delegates fresh and frequent from home circles; by tokens of love, transmitted from home to the soldiers and from soldiers to their homes; by thousands, distributed every week, of their own family papers, familiar as household faces; by free writing-tables, opened at each station, accessible to all, and well supplied with pens, paper, ink, and envelopes—stamps too, if needed, without money or price; and by thousands of letters written for disabled soldiers by delegates themselves, connecting the tent and the hearth by a "living electric chain," as one of our noble workers has styled the Christian Commission. The cause of our imperilled country has been strengthened in the field by saving and strengthening our defenders, and at home by tuning up public sentiment, kindling patriotism and piety, and encouraging faith in God.

The general statements of the Commission are amply verified by documents and statistics and details of facts. They print letters of encouragement from the President and Ministers, and the generals in command of the great armies. The railways have given free transmission to men and stores. The electric telegraph companies have been similarly liberal. Hotels, "and these amongst the best in our cities," decline to send in bills for entertaining delegates and members. The variety and the quantity of the stores distributed can hardly be described. As an example of quantity, one delegate sent word to the office that the army he was with could take 70,000 Testaments, but that of course he did not expect so many. "You shall have them," was the reply, "as fast as steam power can print them." The Confederate authorities at Richmond incautiously undertook to receive supplies for the Federal prisoners there, and they were soon overwhelmed with the quantity sent, and found the carriage from Fortress Monroe too burdensome—as any one will understand who looks at an invoice of "one day's shipment," containing 704 lbs. of ham and above 60 other items, amongst which we note for the curious "1 bbl. family crackers," and "500 What did the Angel wipe it out with?" The members of the Commission, though enthusiastically national and friendly to "the sable sons of Ethiopia," pride themselves on treating the Confederate prisoners with the same kindness as their own soldiers, and were rewarded for this charity by the immediate release, without exchange, of one of their agents who was taken prisoner and carried to Richmond. One of the boons which the Commission take most credit, and

very justly, for supplying to the army, is the means of correspondence, through their open writing-tables, with free letter-paper and stamps. They have enlisted the services of innumerable little girls by getting them to make "housewives," and to write a letter, to be inserted with the needles and thread, of Christian exhortation to the soldier. All this may look larger in the Report than when spread over the area of war; but the Commission have some justification for speaking of "a great field! a field of great armies, great battles, great emergencies and necessities, and of a great work by the Christian Commission," when they can give such items in their account as that of more than a thousand commissioned delegates, more than a million "knapsack books" (whatever they may be) distributed, and nearly three millions of religious newspapers.

The Religion described in this Report is that of which it is so hard to judge, which is associated with so much good that we hesitate to give way to the feelings of dislike and disapproval which it excites. Such as it is, there seems to be no doubt of the great abundance of this American revivalist kind of religion in the American armies. We quote a few passages from this Report. "God has called more noble Christians forth into the service of the Union than ever before engaged in one war upon earth. Scarcely a church or Sabbath school in the land is without its representatives in the war. Some congregations have given whole companies and more." At one station alone in the Army of the Potomac, "more than one thousand hopeful conversions have occurred during the year." "The Gospel is preached from tent to tent, hospital to hospital, camp to camp, and with it the power of God is manifested in measure never before equalled on any similar field. From the chiefs of the army, more than one of whom have themselves in many ways freely borne witness to the fact, down to the drummer-boys, hearts are moved by heavenly influence, profanity is hushed and abashed, intemperance is checked, discontent and despondency cured, wanderers reclaimed, and sinners led to Him who alone can give repentance and remission of sins." Preachers speak of their visits to the armies as "the sunniest days of their lives." We read of a general, whose name is given, "carrying aloft the Stars and Stripes and 'standing up for Jesus' wherever he is placed;" of a converted officer whose "only song is the blood of Jesus;" of many "going up to glory from that groaning ground,"—and much more of the same sort.

Such expressions recall the fact that this Christian Commission only represents one section of American society. But the work thus brought before us, subject to whatever deductions it may be reasonable to make, seems to lead naturally to two reflections. In the first place, the American war does not produce nothing but horrors. It has evidently called forth kindness as well as bravery. In the poetical language of the Commission, "the artesian shaft of war, sunk far down by the hand of the Great Artificer, has penetrated the deeper stratum of Christian sympathy, and the abundant waters of beneficence come gushing forth in copious crystal streams." It is right we should remember the existence of these streams when we think of those sadder torrents with which the great battle-fields are dyed. And, secondly, there is no look of decadence about this people. It is mere ignorance or falsehood to talk of their armies as composed of mercenaries decayed into ruin. Whether we approve of their war or not, they are carrying it on with a unity and an elevation of feeling to which it is folly to blind ourselves. They have some claims to our respect, but they hardly need our pity. The people of the United States may have trials before them which they themselves, in their present excitement, do not appreciate; but they are far more likely to give trouble to the world in time to come than to sink in a premature decay.

"LORD LYNN'S WIFE" AND "ASKERDALE PARK."

Lord Lynn's Wife. Two Volumes. (Bentley.)
Askerdale Park. By a Clergyman. Two Volumes. (Maxwell.)

A PURIST in language might fairly raise a question as to the real heroine of the first of these novels. Does "Lord Lynn's Wife" stand for the lady he actually marries or the lady whom, until the 225th page of the last volume, he supposes he is going to marry. If we are to follow the analogy of the legal maxim *Nemo est hæres viventis*, and argue that no one can be the wife of a bachelor, it is clear that Lucy Mainwaring is the only person who answers to the description in the title; but we suspect, nevertheless, that we shall best arrive at the author's meaning by rejecting all ordinary rules of construction, legal or grammatical, and accepting, as Lord Lynn's wife, not Lucy, Baroness Lynn, but Aurelia Darcy. The position and circumstances of this young lady are in all respects those of the period. She is rich, beautiful, and an intending bigamist. It must have given the author some trouble to introduce any originality into the treatment of such a subject. He had the two recognised types of heroine to choose from—the bigamous and wicked young lady, who marries her second husband, knowing the first to be alive and designing to kill him at her leisure, and the bigamous and innocent young lady, who believes her first husband to be dead before she turns her thoughts to a second; but both these were something more than pre-engaged, and the varieties of the species seemed exhausted. In this dilemma he has availed himself of the expedient to which Nature is stated, on Dryden's authority, to have had recourse when she, too, was aiming at originality with inadequate means of attaining it. "To make a third he joined the former two." Aurelia Darcy is a compound of Lady Audley and Aurora Floyd, without being exactly a repetition of either. She is less vicious, with more excuse, than the former, and more guilty, with less excuse, than the latter. She is determined to marry Lord Lynn, despite her consciousness that, if every one had their own, she would be the property of a certain Edward Winslow, to whom she has been previously married in Ireland; but then, on the very day on which she was going to join her husband, she found him raving in a fit either of madness or epilepsy; and, as all her passion for him died out under the shock, it is not so wonderful that she should have preferred to pronounce it madness, and decided to treat her marriage as a nullity, and to make arrangement for Winslow's being kept in safe custody by a very poor and very unscrupulous country doctor in an out-of-the-way Irish village. But the probability of the character is hardly increased by this combination. Aurelia Darcy ought to be either better than she is or worse than she is. However it may be with a hero, it is hardly safe to make a heroine "ower gude for banning and ower bad for blessing."

The reader will probably differ from the author in his estimate of Lord Lynn's own character. All the time he is in love with Aurelia Darcy he is paying cousinly attentions to Lucy Mainwaring, with such success that not only does she fall in love with him, but both she and her father and mother fully believe that he intends to make her an offer. So much is this the case that, when he at length comes to announce his engagement to Aurelia, Mrs. Mainwaring, noticing a certain uneasiness in his manner, concludes that he is on the eve of a proposal, and leaves him alone with Lucy.

Five minutes before Mrs. Mainwaring's departure Lord Lynn had been fidgeting and longing that she might be called away. He could tell all that need be told, he thought, to Lucy so much more pleasantly than to her parent. She was his little friend, his sister—he laid great mental stress on that fact—and would understand him at once; young people understood each other by far the best. But such is the sad inconsistency of human nature that, Mrs. Mainwaring gone, and the coast

clear, Lord Lynn began to regret her absence, and to feel conscious, in a sort of purblind way, that Lucy might not relish the part of *confidante* which he had so cavalierly assigned to her.

Probably few young ladies would relish having such a part assigned to them at the eleventh hour, and it is certainly singular that Lord Lynn's brotherly friendship for Lucy should not have led him to mention the fact of his being in love with Aurelia a little earlier in their intimacy. However, now that it has come to an actual engagement, it is clearly necessary to announce the fact; so, after some introductory confusions, the interview proceeds.

"Marriage is a serious thing, a serious step, I mean, for a man to take, and I have not been hasty in making my mind up," Lord Lynn blundered on; "but I am fairly in love at last—don't laugh at me for confessing it—and in love, I am sure, with the only woman I ever saw with whom I could be thoroughly happy, who realizes everything I could have dreamed of—beautiful, good, clever, talented beyond any girl I ever met—much too pretty, and much too clever for —"

"Oh, no, no, no!" murmured Lucy, softly, but without looking up, "not clever at all, Hastings. I wish —"

And here she stopped short. There was not a doubt, not the shadow of a misgiving, in Lucy's mind; but the remembrance that the proprieties forbade a young lady to give herself before she had been asked in plain words put a padlock on her lips. She stopped, blushing like a rose, and averted her face. Lord Lynn was too much taken up with his own ideas to interpret the gesture aright.

"Not clever at all!" he exclaimed almost angrily; "my dear Lucy, where are your eyes that you cannot see what all the world sees, except you? This is some silly girlish pique or quarrel, of which I thought too well of my little sister to believe her capable, between you and Aurelia Darcy, which causes —"

Lucy started with a quick convulsive motion, as if she had been stung by a wasp, and she snatched her hand away from him with an inarticulate cry of actual pain; then turned her sweet crimsoned face, and honest bright brown eyes, full upon him, as she asked bravely, but with a quivering lip,—

"You spoke just now of—of your affection for—for somebody, and—and is it Aurelia Darcy—Aurelia Darcy to whom you are about to be married?"

"Certainly," her cousin began; "whom else could you imagine?" but then stopped in his turn at the sight of the ghastly pain and anguish stamped on the pretty kind young face opposite to him.

We must apologize for the length of this quotation; but, if we had made it shorter, the reader could not properly appreciate the force of the author's *naïve* comment on his hero's conduct. "The brave gentleman," he says, "felt as much ashamed as if he had been doing something cowardly and base." Beautiful self-abasement! As much ashamed as if he had done wrong! On the whole, we think it would have been as well if "the brave gentleman" had not been so careful to put his contrition into this hypothetical form.

The sensational part of "Lord Lynn's Wife" has somewhat the air of having been introduced as a concession to the taste of the day; and, though the writer has not taken much trouble with the development of his characters, he would probably have succeeded better if he had devoted himself to this indisputably higher department of the novelist's art. "Askerdale Park" calls for an exactly opposite criticism. The author seems to be wholly incapable of creating a single person for whom it is possible to feel the faintest or most passing sympathy. We read the story exactly as we might read a newspaper account of a trial. The incidents are so curious that we cannot help being interested in them, even though we are absolutely indifferent to the people whom they concern. Who can care for the fate of a hero who carries off a great heiress, not because he is in love with her, but avowedly because he wants her money, and is afraid of not securing it if he waits till she comes of age? But, as far as the mere account of his schemes and

expedients is concerned, the story is capitally told. The circumstances of the elopement itself are certainly out of the common. Miss Verderer is travelling with her duenna by the Great Northern Railway. Mr. Carleton, dressed as a servant of the Company's, appears on the line, waves a danger-flag, brings the train to a standstill, hands the young lady out, helps her up the embankment, places her in a carriage he has in waiting, and carries her triumphantly away. A clause in the will under which she claims her fortune provides that she shall forfeit it if she is married in Scotland, and the ordinary expedient of a license is not available from the certainty that the neighbourhood of Doctors' Commons will be closely watched by the wrathful and outwitted guardian. All that can be done, therefore, is to have the banns published and lodgings taken, in Carleton's name, in seven different London parishes, in the hope that the enemy will be misled by so many false scents. For a time this device is successful; but, on the Saturday preceding the Sunday on which the banns are to be published for the last time, the lovers learn that the young lady's uncle will certainly discover where she is concealed by the afternoon of the following day. Even this fresh difficulty does not prove insuperable. On the plea of their having to leave England for the Colonies that evening, the rector of the parish is induced, by the gift of a hundred pounds towards the expenses of the church, to interrupt the ordinary Sunday morning service and marry the eager couple immediately after the banns have been finally read out. The reader is so far carried away by this series of ingenious expedients that he feels almost sorry when the bride is killed the same evening by an accident to the train which is taking the happy pair to Brighton—a degree of emotion which nothing in her character or that of her husband is otherwise at all sufficient to explain. If the author of "Askerdale Park" will be at the pains to invest the personages of his narrative with a little conventional interest, his real power of telling a story can hardly fail to do him good service the next time he appears in print.

MISS LUCY AIKIN'S LIFE AND LETTERS.

Memoirs, Miscellanies, and Letters of the late Lucy Aikin, including those addressed to the Rev. Dr. Channing from 1826 to 1842. Edited by Philip Hemery Le Breton, of the Inner Temple. (Longman & Co.)

PROBABLY the name of Aikin awakes, in the present generation, few or none of the associations with which it is indissolubly connected in the minds of those now arrived at or verging on middle age. We conceive that, rightly or wrongly, Mrs. Barbauld's "Early Lessons" are now out of print, and have gone the way of all literary flesh. Books wiser very likely and prettier to look at without doubt have replaced these early classics; but, in our young days, Mrs. Barbauld and her brother Dr. Aikin wrote, as far as we can recollect, a very large proportion of the popular juvenile literature. Good as they were, no doubt, after their kind, if these books are gone we hardly regret them. If our remembrance serves us, the model boy of our early literature was but a white-chokered priggish little cub, ever straining after scraps of morality of the tritest description, and encouraged to think that it was far more virtuous to employ his leisure hours in natural philosophy than in cricket. Tom Brown is, with all his defects, more the type after which Englishmen like to see their sons modelled. But we retain kindly remembrances of those who gave us the charming stories of "Evenings at Home," and look with curiosity and interest upon the correspondence of the niece and daughter of its authors. Independently of these associations, however, the private letters of a highly-educated woman, who has but just closed an exceptionally long life, devoted entirely to literary pursuits, cannot fail to yield much

information and amusement. Comparative recluse, too, as Miss Aikin seems to have been during a great part of her life, her personal and hereditary connexions with literature threw her necessarily into the society of many of the most distinguished people of her time, and of not a few of them her powers of shrewd observation and of graphic description have enabled her to give interesting sketches in the volume before us.

Miss Lucy Aikin, the daughter of John Aikin, M.D., was born at Warrington in 1781. She spent her youth at Yarmouth, and the rest of her life in the neighbourhood of London, residing with her parents till their deaths, and subsequently either alone or with other members of her family. Her life seems, from the very slight memoir contained in the volume before us, to have been a singularly quiet and uneventful one. We gather from her correspondence that her health was indifferent. From her seventeenth year she was an authoress, writing many review and magazine articles, and some works for the young, among which a translation of the "Travels of Rolando" was, perhaps, the best known. But her chief works were historical, though she dabbled at times in poetry, and wrote one novel called "Lorimer," of which the writer of her memoir says that its incidents "have been appropriated without acknowledgment by a popular modern writer of novels." Miss Aikin died last January, being then in her eighty-third year.

The volume before us, in addition to the brief memoir to which we have alluded, contains a few miscellaneous essays and dialogues, and a mass of correspondence, of which rather more than half is addressed to Dr. Channing, and the remainder to members of her family and to private friends. We cannot help wishing that the number of letters to Dr. Channing had been, if necessary, curtailed, and a larger selection made from the miscellaneous correspondence. Although the matter of her letters to Dr. Channing is often very interesting, Miss Aikin always seems to be a little upon stilts, and we miss the charm of her more gossiping epistles to her less revered friends. Some of the essays are very amusing, the best being a dialogue upon "Old Times," in which the daily life of a young girl, the daughter of a wealthy tradesman, about the time of the accession of George III., is brought before us with very considerable graphic power. The essay on Words is also worth perusal, as showing the half-amused terror with which cultivated people looked upon the prospects of the English language. The following protest against the Scottish invasion of the English language is worth extracting:—

We began to allow the macaronic of the *Edinburgh Review* for actual *English*! Instead of acting on behalf of another it was for his *behoof*. Staircases, or pairs of stairs, were totally disused; and we were left to ascend by a *stair* as fully *more* convenient. Friends looked *over* the window, and joined each other *on* the street. Forgetful of our honest old idiom "*this here*" and "*that there*," we ceased to perceive any clear difference; however, the confusion might perplex us between this and that, these and those. Inroads and incursions, eruptions and invasions, were all metamorphosed into *raids* and *forays*, and transplanted by writers, too, of no inconsiderable pretensions into historical narratives of distant times and other countries: a species of anachronism and absurdity scarcely less gross than that committed by Cowper in his translation of Homer, where he repeatedly mentions tapestry by the name of *arras*! In fine, our very instinct of shall and will, should and would, began to waver; and we were left to get out of this sad scrape, not as well as we could, but as *we best might*.

As a fair specimen of her style of correspondence while yet a young woman, the following description of society in Edinburgh in the year 1811 may suffice:—

Take the visitors of one morning as a specimen. At breakfast arrives, just imported from the Highlands, a minister of the Kirk, of a stern visage and stiff address, who begs a blessing on the meal unasked; and, on some mention being made of the Duke of Queensbury, solaces himself greatly

with the conviction that he is now roasting. He takes his leave, and enter a fine flourishing colonel. His son has obtained from the Emperor of Russia the appointment of physician to some new baths in Circassia; and he is just giving us an interesting account of his journey from Moscow of 1800 miles, when he is interrupted by two elegant daughters of Lord Woodhouselee. They give place to a plain Scotch advocate, who gives us a ludicrous account of his distress at a London lodging-house, where nobody could make barley-broth, and he was forced to attempt it himself with indifferent success. Two excellent Miss Hills, who devote themselves to the care of a brother's children, and a London-bred lady, with three dirty dogs, finish the exhibition for that day.

Of Scott she says: "Though he speaks very broad Scotch, is a heavy-looking man, and has little the air of a gentleman, I was much pleased with him. He is lively, spirited, and quite above all affectation." In 1819 she saw Mrs. Piozzi at Bath, and thus describes her:—

In a corner of the room sat a little thin old lady, muffled up in a black dress, without a bit of white to be seen, with a high smart headdress, well-rouged cheeks, long nose, and very lively black eyes, whose picturesque appearance almost instantly attracted my notice.

Moore she describes as "Anacreon Moore, otherwise 'Little,' who is an Irishman, and told us some Irish stories with infinite humour." Of his singing she writes thus:—

Upon my word, he gave me new ideas of the power of harmony. He sung us some of his own sweet little songs set to his own music, and rendered doubly touching by a voice the most sweet, an utterance the most articulate, and expression the most deep and varied that I ever witnessed. No wonder this little man is a pet with duchesses! What can be better fitted for a plaything of the great than a ruddy, joyous, laughing young Irishman, poor but not humble, a wit, a poet, and musician, who is willing to devote his charming talents to their entertainment, for the sake of being admitted to their tables and honoured with their familiarity?

For many other anecdotes and descriptions of the learned and distinguished persons with whom Miss Aikin was brought into contact we must refer our readers to the book itself. Neither will our space permit us to give extracts from her voluminous letters to Dr. Channing, which extend over a period of sixteen years and embrace dissertations, sometimes indeed shallow and feeble, but not unfrequently evincing much shrewd thought upon the various political and social questions of the day. It is singular that, in her letters to such a man as Dr. Channing, the question of slavery should be but very seldom and cursorily touched upon.

On the whole, the book before us has been fairly edited by Mr. Le Breton. The essays and the miscellaneous letters are well selected, inasmuch as they almost all contain something interesting or amusing. Those to Dr. Channing form a tolerably unbroken series, and we presume it was thought well to publish them in their entirety; but the general reader will, we repeat, wish that some of the space occupied by them had been devoted to lighter matter.

ITALIAN GUIDES.

The Knapsack Guide for Travellers in Italy. (Murray.)

ITINERARIES, or guide-books, are much older than the Roman Empire, and, ever since the discovery of the art of printing, have been common enough in the principal European states; but never till the Peace of Paris did they receive in this country an ample development. We had then been for a quarter of a century, with a slight intermission, excluded from the Continent; and there was, in 1814 and 1815, such a rush of English to France, Italy, and Germany that it was felt by publishers something must be done to supply the immense demand for guide-books. Had the truce—for we can hardly call it the peace—of Amiens continued, doubtless the want felt some thirteen or fourteen years afterwards would have been earlier supplied.

But, in 1802 and 1803, the thirteen months of a semblance of amity did not encourage the most enterprising traders of the Row to publish accounts of travels or descriptions of places and their distances. Not very many English visited France in 1802, and these were chiefly of the upper ten thousand, admirers of the First Consul—like Charles Fox, Erskine, Henry Grey, Bennett, and Whitbread, or men of letters like Macintosh Allen, Lancelot Lee, Richard Sharp, the Rev. Mr. Gordon, Fellow of New College, Mr. Underwood, or the late Mr. T. E. Darby of Trinity College, Cambridge. None of the *détenués* at Verdun, except Mr. Darby and the Chevalier Lawrence, gave us their experiences of foreign travel; and, when the great demand arose for itineraries and guide-books in 1814, our bibliopoles of that day had recourse to ponderous Germans such as Reichard, Schrieber, and Domier, to adroit Swiss like Planta and Ebel, to accomplished Italians like Carlo Nibby, or to experienced ones like Vasi.

This system is now happily changed. For every one person who travelled in 1814-15 a thousand travel now; and the class of tourists who, forty or fifty years ago, wended their way, in a hoy or long coach, to Margate or Ramsgate extend, in 1864, their peregrinations to Paris and Rome. A friend who has just returned from a lengthened tour in Italy assures us that Brown, Jones, and Robinson, in the persons of scores of English excursionists, are to be found at Genoa, Milan, Venice, Rome, and Naples; and he further informs us that next year it is very probable that the great *entrepreneur* of the northern and midland counties will lead his troops of excursionist travellers from Rugby, Derby, Leicester, Spilsby, Lincoln, Oakham, Rutland, and Sheffield to Constantinople, Grand Cairo, and the Pyramids. To find not merely an untravelled gentleman or scholar, but, if things go on in this go-ahead fashion, an untravelled shopkeeper will soon be the difficulty; for, by-and-by, thanks to rail, steam, and monster excursions, the dry-salter and the druggist may have gone over nearly as much ground as the medical baronet Sir Henry Holland himself, one of the most relentless of the elder tourists, who performed their peregrinations when locomotion was much more slow and irksome and altogether more costly. To meet a portion of the demand of twenty years ago Mr. Murray happily fell on the idea of the handbooks; but, in this fast age, when the million are disposed to make the grand tour, something is necessary more succinct and portable as well as less costly than these well-known handbooks. A sacristan of an Italian church is said to have remarked to Monsignore Manning that the English were the most pious people in the world. "Why do you think so?" asked the gentleman thus addressed. "Because, monsignore, they are always seen in our churches and basilicas, and, indeed, in the streets, eternally reading those red missals, which are literally their *vade-mecums*, compiled, I am told, by Monsignore Murray, the predecessor in the Archbishopric of Dublin of Il Dottore Cullen, of the Irish College, whom we all knew when here." Be this as it may, the English *belles* of the Piazza di Spagna of Rome and of the Chiaja at Naples have all their Murray at their fingers' ends. We do not say that there is too much learning, too much of classics, connoisseurship, and archaeology in the larger handbooks for the upper ten thousand; but there is clearly too much for the rank and file of travellers. What they want is a compact, curtailed knapsack-guide, illustrated with maps and plans of towns and galleries, which may be easily stowed away in the breast or capacious waistcoat-pocket of the horrid-looking but convenient and cheap Tweed travelling-suit now so all but universal among the rising generation. The desired want is found in the volume before us. It is just the thing for the well-to-do professional man or men of business who have no time to study and no desire to purchase the larger handbooks. It is, in the main, an abridg-

ment of the Handbooks of Northern, Central, and Southern Italy, in which the quintessence, the pure, essential part of these volumes, educed by a process of evaporation and condensation—all, in fact, that is necessary in the costlier volumes—is retained. Some new matter and the very latest and freshest information have also been added. The aim of the book is thoroughly practical. Its object is, shortly, to convey to all travellers pressed for time the information needed in the fewest words. Care appears to have been taken to give the very best information regarding inns, modes of communication by railway and steam, and also the addresses of professional men, tradespeople, and bankers. Plans of the principal towns and of the most important galleries have been inserted, as well as two itinerary maps showing the most recent extensions of railway-communications. There is also a very copious index, furnishing a perfect clue to the contents. Mr. Murray advises no British subject to leave England without obtaining a passport from the Foreign Office, which can now be effected at an expense of 2s. With this document the tourist can enter and travel through the Italian States, Switzerland, &c. It is very advisable to obtain the *visa* of the Austrian embassy, and, if going to Rome, that of the Papal Nuncio at Paris. If the *visa* of the Nuncio in Paris or Brussels cannot be obtained, that of the Papal consuls in the French or Austrian seaports will do as well, or of the Spanish consuls in the Italian kingdom. The best money for Italy consists of the circular notes; and, of foreign coin, French gold napoleons will be the best, as they pass as the legal currency throughout the Italian kingdom and the Venetian provinces, and will be generally changed at a premium in the Roman states. Mr. Murray says, and truly, that, for a bachelor, living moderately, the daily outlay at the best hotels ought not to exceed 15 francs a day, exclusive, of course, of sight-seeing, carriages, &c. There are very few routes where recourse must be had to the antiquated mode of posting; and so rapid is the extension of railways that, in a couple of years, there will be very few left of the lines of road described in the volume before us. As to luggage, the fewer packages the traveller has the better, for the charges, Mr. Murray remarks, on over-weight are very high, the traveller not being allowed any free weight on the Government railways in Northern Italy; whilst, on those of Tuscany, the Papal States, and Naples, he is entitled to only twenty-five kilogrammes. Mr. Murray gives various plans of tours, such as a journey in Italy during the winter months, in which he sets down thirty days for Rome and its environs. Now we do not hesitate to say that Rome cannot be visited thoroughly under sixty days, and it were all the better if ninety days were dedicated to the purpose. In an excursion of three months Mr. Murray proposes ten days for Rome and its environs. In that time one might certainly have a bird's-eye view of the Eternal City, but nothing beyond. The idea of going over Rome with Burton or Carlo Nibby in hand in ten days is preposterous. It is a very hard three months' work, as we can ourselves vouch.

Mr. Murray's commendation of hotels seems judicious. There is an error, probably by oversight, or possibly a clerical one, at page 506, which we should wish to see corrected in a future edition. It is there said that the eruption of Vesuvius on the 23rd Aug., A.D. 79, is well described by Pliny the elder. Possibly it would have been well described had he survived, for he took notes of what occurred; but he was himself a victim to the memorable eruption that destroyed Herculaneum and Pompeii. It is Pliny the younger who has described these events in two memorable letters to Tacitus. The present state and condition of Italy, the best way of dining, breakfasting, lodging, and moving to and fro all through the country, what to see and what to ponder on, are admirably told in 570 small pages at the small cost of 6s. If the traveller wishes to know

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the history, antiquities, and archæology of ancient or mediæval Italy, he must purchase Murray's larger Italian guide-books, or consult the pages of Addison, Brydone, Forsyth, Eustace, Burton, or Nibby. Vasari, Lanzi, Winkelman, must be read for the arts, and Tiraboschi, Guinguené, Sismondi, Botta, Roscoe, and others for the literature of Italy. To expect such questions to be treated in a knapsack-guide would be unreasonable. All that the mass of everyday summer travellers require to know is how to pass through the country in ease and comfort, and how to see as much as can be seen in a short time. A. V. K.

NOTICES.

On the Application of Cast and Wrought Iron to Building Purposes. By William Fairbairn, F.R.S. Third Edition.—THIS book consists of several papers, most of which have been published elsewhere, and which record either inquiries or experimental investigations carried on by the author and others on the subject of iron applied to building construction—a subject on which Mr. Fairbairn is an acknowledged authority. The first part is on cast-iron beams, simple and compound, giving various experiments upon them, and rules for their forms and dimensions. The part treating of compound beams, formed of cast-iron with wrought-iron truss rods, might have been omitted; for, since the lamentable accident that occurred with the Dee Bridge in 1847 (to which, by-the-bye, Mr. Fairbairn makes no allusion), few engineers have ventured to use such an uncertain and dangerous form of structure. The second part is on wrought-iron beams, now much more used than cast-iron, with experiments and observations on trellis girders. The third part is on the construction of fire-proof warehouses; in which, however, we should prefer to use as little iron as possible, particularly cast-iron. It is true that iron will not burn like timber; but the principal danger in warehouses is from the ignition of their contents, and all those acquainted with great fires know that, if combustible materials in a large store once get well on fire, cast-iron columns and girders are almost as destructible as wooden joists and flooring. A really fire-proof building must be built with masonry and brickwork only. The floors must be supported on arches; and these must be carried on solid piers. The fourth part of the work treats of iron bridges—a subject now threadbare in the profession. What is wanted is, not to inform engineers how to make iron bridges, but to tell them how *not* to make them; for the mania for iron structures, usually adopted by railway people for cheapness alone, has deformed the country, and the metropolis in particular, with an inundation of ugly eye-sores which must make the very name of a railway engineer unsavoury to every right-seeing person. The worst bridge-building mistake probably ever committed is the course lately determined on by the City authorities in rebuilding Blackfriars Bridge. There was the opportunity for erecting a handsome and durable stone bridge, which would have formed a national monument, a fit comparison to London and Waterloo Bridges, and which would have been a credit to the country for ages to come. Instead of which, however, the Solons of the City have adopted, to save a few thousands of pounds, a flimsy structure of iron bars which will soon rust to pieces and will be the laughing-stock of Europe. The greatest iron-bridge builder that ever lived, Robert Stephenson, gave it as his deliberate opinion that iron, as a material for bridges, is at best only a make-shift, and cannot—for any of the qualities that a great national structure should possess—for a moment compete with stone. Mr. Fairbairn concludes with an account of a large iron bridge which he designed for crossing the Rhine at Cologne, but which, apparently to his mortification, was not adopted there.

La Revue des Deux Mondes. 1er Novembre 1864.—It is a lasting phenomenon that George Sand, writing so much, should continue to write so well. The catalogue of her works must, in size, be fast approaching, if indeed it have not already surpassed, that of the dreary productions of the late G. P. R. James. The present number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* opens with the concluding part of her "Confessions d'une Jeune Fille." The next article is by M. Bertrand, of the Academy of Sciences, on Galileo's Life and Scientific Mission. Then we have articles on

"Cicero and Cæsar;" on the treatment, &c., of foundlings in France; on Tertullian, by M. Albert Réville; and on "Théodore II. and the New Empire of Abyssinia." Besides these, there is an article entitled "Le Lendemain de la Victoire en Pologne," by M. Charles de Mazade; and another by M. Vitet, on the "Teaching of the Arts of Design in France." This last relates to the recent changes which have been made in several most important arrangements affecting the fine arts on the other side of the Channel. Among the duties of the Académie des Beaux-Arts used to be the selection of the works sent for exhibition at the triennial *salon*, and the adjudication on the merits of the various candidates for the Prix de Rome. It is also, if we mistake not, superintended the higher art-teaching generally. By the recent decision of the government all power has been taken away from the Académie des Beaux-Arts, and various other changes have been introduced. The Academicians are naturally indignant, and have been loud in their complaints. Now that our own Royal Academy is, in some sense, on its trial, the whole subject deserves more attention than it has generally received in England. But M. Vitet's article, which is a strong attack on the new regulations, presupposes an acquaintance with the ins and outs of the case, and will not, therefore, be of much use to those who have not previously looked into it. M. Forcade's "Chronique de la Quinzaine" is again mainly taken up with a discussion on the Franco-Italian Convention of the 15th of September.

The Life of Wesley, and the Rise and Progress of Methodism.—By Robert Southey, Poet Laureate. New Edition. (Bell and Daldy. Pp. 623.)—UNTIL Robert Southey, nearly half a century ago, wrote the Life of Wesley, the labours and achievements of that great religious revivalist were, to the general public, almost unknown. Wesley himself came before the world at a period when religious life was an unintelligible phrase, and many parts of the country were fast lapsing back into perfect heathendom. His influence for good was immense, and the body he created is at this moment the most important Dissenting religious organization in the country. How Wesley came prepared for the great work he had to accomplish, how he succeeded, and who were his coadjutors—what was the feeling and temper of the time, religiously and politically, and what was the general drift of men's thoughts—will be all found in Southey's admirable Life. The volume forms one of Bohn's Standard Library Series, and a more desirable reprint we could scarcely have suggested.

James Brindley and the Early Engineers. By Samuel Smiles, author of "Self-Help," &c. Abridged from "Lives of the Engineers." (Murray. Pp. 320.)—THIS capital abridgment, besides the life and labours of James Brindley, our great canal-maker, contains ample biographies of Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, the drainer of the Great Fen level, Captain Perry, who stopped the great river breach at Dagenham, and Sir Hugh Myddelton, who made the New River and brought a grand water-supply to London. The volume is profusely illustrated with maps, diagrams, portraits, and views; and no better book could be put into the hands of youth. The men of whose works and lives this volume speaks have, as the Hon. Mr. Gladstone truly said at Manchester, "written their names in a distinguished page of the history of their country." This edition contains in its appendix an account of the canal of Languedoc and a memoir of its constructor, Pierre-Paul Riquet de Bonrepos, by some called "the French Brindley."

Lives of the Queens of England from the Norman Conquest. By Agnes Strickland. A New Edition, carefully revised and augmented, to form part of Bohn's Historical Library. (Bell and Daldy. Pp. 640.)—It appears from the preface to the present edition that Miss Strickland's sister has been a co-worker with her from the beginning in the "Lives of the Queens of England," but refuses to allow her name to appear on the title-page along with that of her relative. The modesty is pardonable; but, at the same time, people are always delighted to know the names of their benefactors. No historical work was ever welcomed with greater enthusiasm by the general public than was Agnes Strickland's "Lives of the Queens of England;" and the only thing to be regretted about a work so popular was that it was not within the reach of a wider though humbler class of readers. This was also the feeling of Agnes Strickland herself; and, with a devotion that does her honour, she "repurchased the copyright of the entire series, and now issues them in a form and at a price" which, she very

properly thinks, will bring the book "within the reach of all classes." The work will be in six volumes.

Lonely Hours. Poems by Fanny E. Fisher. Inscribed, by permission, to Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart, M.P. (Dublin: Hodges, Smith, & Co. Pp. 288.)—FANNY FISHER appears to have commenced the practice of verse-writing at a very early age; and, considering that the greater part of what she afterwards composed was "thrown off amidst household avocations and without any superintendence from literary friends," she may fairly enough claim the indulgence of critics. Apart from any consideration of this kind, however—and all literary efforts must stand or fall by their own innate merits—every one who reads "Lonely Hours" must confess that there is wonderful smoothness in the verses and that they embody sentiments beautiful and pure. There is wonderful correctness, too, in the writing; and, if we cannot hail Miss Fisher altogether as a poet, we can welcome her as a warbler, whose strains are all the more soothing because occasionally sad.

Echoes from my Youth, and other Poems. By J. W. Jackson. (Trübner & Co. Pp. 126.)—MR. JACKSON is another singer, with an equally musical voice, and only differing from the other in an occasional strength and variety of note. As well as the ordinary sentimental and religious themes, we have now and then a political touch or two; and from the odes "to the illustrious living" as well as those to the mighty dead, we discover that our author possesses at least one great quality of the poet—viz., veneration. There is a fine manly spirit pervading many of the political and patriotic pieces, and we regret our space will not allow of our making any extracts.

The Domestic Service Guide to Housekeeping, &c., from the best and latest Authorities, and the Communications of Heads of Families, in Several Hundred New Receipts. (Lockwood & Co. Pp. 420.)—THIS thick volume is quite a household *vade-mecum*. Not only are the duties of the various servants laid down with great care and accuracy, but the best system of managing their several departments is pointed out clearly and intelligibly. We have, accordingly, not only instructions about the economy of the stable, but also of the dairy, the wine-cellar, and all about home-brewing and wine-making, pickling and preserving, and a thousand things beside. There is an excellent index attached to the volume, allowing the inquirer to get at once to his subject. We have little doubt but that the "Domestic Service Guide" will become what it deserves to be—viz., very popular.

FROM Messrs. J. and C. Mozley we have received *The Right Fear and the Wrong Fear—"It Looks so!"—Gossip*, by the author of "Sunshine in Sickness"—an earnest, lively little book;—*I believe in the Holy Catholic Church*, reprinted from "Thoughts on the Church Catechism"—a capital exposition of the Creed;—*A Short Life of Sir Isaac Newton*—well adapted for the young;—and *The Prince and Schuldner*, an allegory, and *The Procession*, both by the Rev. W. H. Ridley, M.A., Rector of Hambledon, Bucks. These two tales are excellent reading for young folks.—From Messrs. J. Heaton and Son we have received part six of *Sermons by Henry Ward Beecher*; and, from the Chronological Institute of London, we have *Antient Biblical Chronograms*, discovered and explained by W. H. Black, F.S.A.

OF periodicals received too late to be noticed in our last week's magazine article, we have received part one of the new series of the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland*. The article by Dr. J. Muir, entitled "Contributions to a Knowledge of the Vedic Theogony and Mythology," will be found very interesting; and the same may be said of Mr. Bosanquet's paper on "Assyrian and Hebrew Chronology." We are glad to see that the valuable paper of Sir H. Rawlinson on "Bilingual Readings, Cuneiform and Phœnician," is printed with such care, and that the examples given from the briefs, cylinders, and seals in the British Museum are rendered so faithfully.—The *Anthropological Review* has reached its seventh number. The paper in it most interesting to the general reader is perhaps the one on "Slavery," by James Reddie, F.A.S.L. The critical article on Bain's "Senses and the Intellect" appears written by one perfectly competent to the task; and, while differing from the learned professor in some points, he pays a high tribute to his learning and research, and regards his "three works as a valuable contribution to the science of the mind."

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FROM New York we have the *National Quarterly Review*, in which we find an article on "Vico's Philosophy of History." As the great Italian was the first who ever started such philosophy, and as some of our own historians, whom we could name, appear lamentably ignorant of him and his system, we would cordially recommend a perusal of the article. "Spinoza and his Philosophy" is another good piece of exposition; and, for lighter reading, we would recommend the papers entitled "Elizabeth and her Courtiers" and "William Pitt and His Times."—From Boston comes to us the *North American Review*; and in it we find a good article on "The Conditioned and the Unconditioned," a rapid sketch of the life of "Baron Steuben, the Revolutionary General," and an appreciative review of the "Life of William Blake." The article also on "Recent Italian Comedy" is well worth reading. From the same quarter we have also received the *Atlantic Monthly*, devoted to literature, art, and politics, in which will be found readable papers on all three subjects.

ILLUSTRATED GIFT-BOOKS FOR THE SEASON.

EVEN if it were not for the November fogs and the frosty mornings telling that Christmas is approaching, we are not likely to forget that the year is drawing to its close, reminded as we are now daily of the fact by the appearance of numerous elegantly got-up volumes, specially intended for Christmas and New Year's gifts, and which, if they do not form a class of literature of their own, still claim to be mentioned by themselves as works peculiar to the season. The first place must be accorded to "The New Testament; with Engravings on Wood from Designs of Fra Angelico, Pietro Perugino, Francesco Francia, Lorenzo di Credi, Fra Bartolommeo, Titian, Raphael, Gaudenzio Ferrari, Daniel di Volterra, and others"—a labour of love to which Mr. Thomas Longman has devoted whatever leisure he could spare from business for upwards of ten years, during the whole of which he has been most ably assisted by Mr. Henry Shaw, whose knowledge and taste are here displayed to the greatest advantage. The whole of the initial letters, and all the decorative portions of the volume, were designed or adapted and drawn on wood by him, and the figure illustrations were drawn and engraved under his superintendence.

The ornamentation is selected from examples of the best period of Italian art, from the illuminated borderings of manuscripts and early printed books to be met with in the library of the British Museum, the Bodleian Library, the Soane Museum, and other celebrated collections. Copied with microscopic care by Mr. Shaw upon wood, the engravings are the finished productions of Messrs. James Cooper, W. Linton, W. Measom, the brothers Dalziel, and others. The drawings on the wood-blocks of the subjects from pictures are all by Mr. A. J. Waudby, excepting the "Raising of Lazarus," after Sebastian del Piombo, which is by Mr. Scott. Besides the eminent wood-engravers already mentioned, by whom also the principal historical subjects have been engraved, we have to mention Messrs. W. T. Green, J. L. Williams, T. Williams, and A. Williams, R. C. West, F. Anderson, and J. Thompson. Since the production of Dr. Dibden's Bibliographical Decameron and Bibliographical Tours, no work, unassisted by the illuminator's art, has ever produced such faithful representations of missal ornamentation of the best period of Italian art. The book, which was last year only issued to subscribers at ten guineas, is now published at three, and is sure to be one of the most coveted of Christmas books.

"The Cornhill Gallery" contains one hundred wood-engravings, from drawings by Frederick Leighton, A.R.A., John Everett Millais, R.A., George du Maurier, J. Noel Paton, R.A.S., Frederick Sandys, George A. Sala, W. M. Thackeray, and Frederick Walker, by the brothers Dalziel, W. F. Linton, and Joseph Swain. "To a desire to render an act of justice to the eminent artists of whose talents they have availed themselves in the illustration of the *Cornhill Magazine*, by exhibiting, with the aid of the finest printing, the real quality of those illustrations as works of art," we are indebted, as the publishers tell us, for this remarkably cheap and beautiful guinea volume, which is sure to charm many a fireside circle during the coming season. The impressions of the pictures which have appeared in the *Cornhill Magazine* were, as a matter of course, all printed from electrotypes casts taken from the wood-blocks; so that the wood-blocks

themselves have now been used for the first time in the production of the "Cornhill Gallery." The subjects are chiefly chosen from the illustrations to "Framley Parsonage," "Lovel the Widower," "The Adventures of Philip," "Romola," "The Small House at Allington," "The Story of Elizabeth and Denis Duval," thus, in the most agreeable way, they cannot fail to revive the memories of Lucy Roberts and Lord Lufton, of Bessy and Lovel, of Philip on his way through the world, of Lily Dale and Adolphus Crosbie, of Romola and Tito, of Cousin Phillis, and of Elizabeth—those vivid creations of Thackeray and Trollope, of George Eliot, Mrs. Gaskell, and Miss Thackeray. The book is one to tempt even a man of small means to purchase a copy, not only for the pleasure it affords, but as a good and safe investment for his money.

"Home Thoughts and Home Scenes, Original Poems and Pictures—the first by Miss Mulock, Jean Ingelow, Amelia B. Edwards, Mrs. Norton, Mrs. Tom Taylor, Dora Greenwell, and Jennett Humphreys, and the second by the brothers Dalziel, from Mr. A. B. Houghton's designs—forms the new volume of Messrs. Routledge's guinea series of elegantly got-up drawing-room table volumes; and, as the subjects are all chosen from home scenes of childhood, in the delineation of which Mr. Houghton is not surpassed by any other artist, it is sure to be extensively popular as a gift-book.

Mr. Charles Bennett's "Sorrowful Ending of Noddledoo, with the Fortunes and Fate of her Neighbours and Friends," is the funny book of the season, one of which we naturally expect annually from Messrs. Low & Co. for the delectation of youngsters home for the holidays.

"Our Dumb Companions," by Prebendary Jackson of St. Paul's, is a charming picture-book all about dogs, horses, donkeys, and cats, in which Mr. Harrison Weir's pencil has even excelled itself in an evident labour of love.

Then we have our old friend "Peter Parley's Annual for 1865," about everything in the world and much besides, with lots of pictures, some of which are coloured, and a kindred volume, "Every Boy's Annual," edited by Mr. Edmund Routledge; Mr. Charles H. Bennett's "Fun in Earnest; or, Rhymes with Reason," by Davy W. Thomson; and a volume of tales by Henrietta Lushington, with illustrations by G. J. Pinwell, called "Hacco the Dwarf; or, the Tower of the Mountain, and other Tales"—all books sure of a welcome as seasonable and acceptable presents during the holidays.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE WEEK.

ABBOTS CLEVE; OR, CAN IT BE PROVED? Second Edition. Three Volumes. Post 8vo. Tinsley. 31s. 6d.
ABOUT IN THE WORLD. Essays. By the Author of "The Gentle Life." Second Edition. Fcap. 8vo., pp. viii—312. Low. 6s.
ACTS. The Public General Acts of 27 and 28 Victoria, 1864, intended as a Supplement to the Commercial and General Lawyer. 8vo., sd., pp. 156. Macdonald. 4s. 6d.
AUTUMN HOLIDAYS. (The) of a Country Parson. By the Author of "The Recreations of a Country Parson." Post 8vo., pp. vii—418. Longman. 9s.
BALLANTYNE (R. M.) The Lifeboat. A Tale of our Coast Heroes. With Illustrations. Sm. cr. 8vo., pp. vii—392. Nisbet. 5s.
BELL (Catherine D.) Aunt Alice. Second Edition. Fcap. 8vo., pp. 412. Edmonstone and Douglas. 3s. 6d.
BENNETT (Charles). Sorrowful Ending of Noddledoo, with the Fortunes and Fate of her Neighbours and Friends. With Engravings. Fcap. 4to., pp. 38. Low. Plain, 5s.; coloured, 7s. 6d.
BLACKWOOD (Stevenson A.) Forgiveness, Life, and Glory. Addresses. Fcap. 8vo., cl. sd., pp. vii—176. Nisbet. 2s. 6d.
BOY'S OWN BOOK (The). A Complete Encyclopedia of all the Diversions—Athletic, Scientific, and Recreative—of Boyhood and Youth. Illustrated. New Edition. Sup. roy. 16mo., pp. 623. Lockwood. 8s. 6d.
BRINTON (William M.D., F.R.S.) Lectures on the Diseases of the Stomach, with an Introduction on its Anatomy and Physiology. Second Edition. 8vo., pp. xii—368. Churchill. 10s. 6d.
BRODERIP (Frances Freeling). Crosspatch, the Cricket, and the Counterpane: a Patchwork of Story and Song. Illustrated by her Brother, Thomas Hood. Sup. roy. 16mo., pp. 188. Griffith and Farran. Plain, 3s. 6d.; col., 4s. 6d.
BROWN (J. H.) Spectroscopy, or, Surprising Spectral Illusions: showing Ghosts everywhere, and of any Colour. Fourth Edition. First Series. With Sixteen Illustrations. 4to., bds., pp. 11. Griffith and Farran. 2s. 6d.
BRYCE (James B.A.) Holy Roman Empire. (Arnold Prize Essay, 1863.) 8vo., pp. 176. Macmillan. 6s.
BUNYAN (John). Holy War made by Shaddai upon Diabolus, for the Regaining of the Metropolis of the World; or, the Losing and Taking again of the Town of Mansoul. With Illustrations. Fcap. 8vo., pp. xii—343. Nisbet. 3s. 6d. Cheap Edition. 32mo., sd., pp. 256. 3d.
BUNYAN (John). Pilgrim's Progress from this World to that Which is to Come. A New Edition, with a Memoir, principally selected from "Grace abounding to the Chief of Sinners," by John Allen, M.A. Illustrated by Engravings. Fcap. 8vo., pp. 310. Routledge. 2s. 6d.
CATALOGI CODICUM MANUSCRITORUM BIBLIOTHECÆ BODLEIANÆ. Pars Sexta. Codices Syriaci. Confecit R. Payne Smith, A.M. 4to. Macmillan. 21s.—Pars Septima. Codices Sæcristici. Confecit Th. Auerbach, A.M. 4to. 21s.
CORNHILL GALLERY (The). Containing 100 Engravings from Drawings on Wood (being Designs for the Illustration of the *Cornhill Magazine*). By Frederick Leighton, A.R.A., John Everett Millais, R.A., George du Maurier, J. Noel Paton, R.A.S., Frederick Sandys, George A. Sala, W. M. Thackeray, Frederick Walker. Roy. 4to. Smith, Elder, & Co. 21s.
CLARKE (J. Erskine, M.A.) Children's Picture-Book of Bible Miracles. Written in Simple Language. Illustrated. Cheap Edition. Roy. 16mo., cl. sd. Bell and Daldy. 1s.

CLARKE (J. Erskine, M.A.) Children's Picture-Book of Scripture Parables. Written in Simple Language. Illustrated. Cheap Edition. Roy. 16mo., cl. sd. Bell and Daldy. 1s.
CLERE (Rev. H., M.A.) and SHAW (A. M.) English Grammar for Junior Classes. 18mo. Longman. 9d.
COLENSO (Rt. Rev. John William, D.D.) Pentateuch and Book of Joshua Critically Examined. People's Edition. Part I. Cr. 8vo., sd., pp. 72. Longman. 1s.
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THE READER.

12 NOVEMBER, 1864.

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MISCELLANEA.

BOTH Leech and Thackeray were educated at the Charterhouse, were schoolfellows there together, and both ever showed remarkable attachment to their old school. On the last Founder's Day they sat side by side in the Great Hall, where they were warmly greeted by many attached friends and old Carthusians. It is proposed to erect a monument to their joint memories within the walls of the Charterhouse, and the Rev. Dr. Currey of the Charterhouse has consented to receive contributions for this object.

OUR attention has been called to a rapid method of reproducing pencil-drawings, plans, and sketches, mentioned in the *Invalides Russe* as founded upon an observation made some time ago by M. Villani-Villanis. "Si on humecte avec une solution acidulée un papier sur lequel est tracé un plan ou de l'écriture au crayon de mine de plomb ordinaire," are his words, "et si on vient à encrer ce papier, il arrive que le trait de crayon prend seul l'encre, et qu'on peut ensuite opérer le transport du dessin sur métal ou sur pierre." Acting upon this hint, Captain Sytenko of the Imperial Artillery, Directeur du Service Photographique de l'Etat Major, found that pencil-drawings, after the paper had been moistened with acidulated water and inked as suggested, could readily be transferred to zinc or stone. He has introduced some modifications into the process and invented a portable press, which will be particularly useful in campaigns, where it is often desirable to have a number of copies of a hasty pencil-sketch. It does not take more than ten minutes to effect the transfer of the drawing upon a zinc plate or lithographic stone.

THE North London Working-Classes Exhibition was formally closed on Monday evening by an admirable speech from the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Exhibition itself has been a great success. Indeed, according to the Secretary's report, "The Hall during some evenings was so

crowded that the doors had to be closed and further admittance denied. On one evening, between five and nine o'clock, the turnstiles recorded the admission of no less than 22,000 visitors, which, with 6000 who had paid 6d. during the day, made the total up to 28,000 in all—a number that would do credit even to a national exhibition. Altogether, the average attendance during the first fortnight amounted to nearly 18,000 per day. The Exhibition closed after having been visited by 196,926 persons, exclusive of those who attended at the concluding ceremony, probably some 8000 or 10,000 more. Financially, there is every chance of there being a surplus of £1000, if not more." We find that a similar exhibition is about to take place south of the Thames, where the idea originated, and where the first exhibition of the kind was held.

THE tunnel under the Apennines, on the Bologna and Florence railroad, has just been opened to the public, and the line is now open from Turin and Milan to Rome and Naples without any other interruption than the few miles which separate Civita-Vecchia from Orbitello, on the Tuscan coast.

MESSRS. CASSELL'S library edition of "Don Quixote," with 400 engravings after Gustave Doré's celebrated illustrations, which every lover of art values as the most kindred to the work yet produced, will, judging from the specimen number before us, be one of the most beautiful books of the season.

MESSRS. ROUTLEDGE announce a new monthly periodical, entitled *Routledge's Magazine for Boys*, with which they intend to incorporate *Every Boy's Magazine*. The first number will be published in December. Amongst the contributors will be W. H. G. Kingston, R. M. Ballantyne, Stirling Coyne, and the editor, Mr. Edmund Routledge.

IN recording the death of Mr. John Lang, the well-known editor of the *Moffussilite*, the *Hindoo Patriot* says: "The deceased was a very witty and powerful writer, and made literature his avocation. He wrote some of the most entertaining novels bearing the impress of Anglo-Indian authorship. Although he was a barrister-at-law, he seldom took briefs; but, in a single case, he made the harvest of a lifetime—we allude to the celebrated case of Joteepersad. He had a large circle of admirers both in India and in England."

"KNOWLEDGE and its Advantages," an essay read at the Young Men's Literary Association, Presidency College, Calcutta, by Khetter Laul Chuckerbutty, has been printed, and is well spoken of.

A SOCIETY called the "Truth Society" has been started at Agra, composed of a body of reformers, who claim more of a spiritual element for their tenets than the Brahmoists. They acknowledge the divine origin of the Vedas, and adopt the precepts contained in them for their rule of life.

FOR the use of Englishmen there has just appeared at Versailles "The Imperial Museum of Versailles: Catalogue of the Paintings, Statues, and Artistic Decorations of the Palace, with Explanatory Notes, &c.; followed by a complete Description of the Park of Versailles and of the Parks and Palaces of the Trianons."

THE third and concluding volume of Mr. T. C. Jerdon's "Birds of India" has been received by Messrs. Williams and Norgate from Calcutta, being a Natural History of all the Birds known to inhabit Continental India; with Descriptions of the Species, Genera, Families, Tribes, and Orders.

MESSRS. NISBET AND Co.'s list of new books includes, beyond those mentioned in No. 93 of THE READER:—"The Tree of Life; or, Redemption and its Fruits in Grace and Glory," by the Rev. H. Shepherd; "Effie's Friends," a tale; "Genesis: its Authenticity and Authority of the first Eleven Chapters Discussed," by Henry Girdlestone; "The Holy War," by John Bunyan, illustrations by Fitzcook; "Forgiveness, Life, and Glory," addresses by Mr. Stevenson A. Blackwood; "Home and Foreign Service," a tale; "Through Deep Waters; or, Seeking and Finding," an autobiography; "The Life and Letters of the Duchess of Gordon," by the Rev. A. Moody Stuart; "The Poems of George Herbert," illustrated with woodcuts by Noel Humphreys, Clayton, and Birket Foster; "A Second Series of Illustrated Gatherings for Preachers and Teachers," by the Rev. G. S. Bowes; "Quietness and Assurance for Ever," Memorials of Jane Anchinleck Luke, by her Husband; volume twenty-two of "The Exeter Hall Lectures;" and "A Brief Biblical Commentary, in which the Historical and Chronological Order of Scripture is preserved, and the more difficult

passages explained, chiefly for Domestic and Scholastic Use," translated from the German of Dr. Barth by the Rev. Robert Menzies.

THE sixth part of Dr. Goldstücker's Sanskrit and English Dictionary, extended and improved from the second edition of H. H. Wilson, has appeared.

THE Empress of the French, as patroness of so many of the charities of Paris, has, through her private secretary, thanked Mr. Blanchard Jerrold for his studies of the poor of the French capital under the title of "The Children of Lutetia." Mr. Jerrold is preparing a similar work on the poor and charities of Belgium and Holland.

A BOOK of some interest is "Marie-Anne-Charlotte de Corday d'Armont: sa Vie, son Temps, ses Ecrits, son Procès, sa Mort, par Chéron de Villiers," with fac-simile of the portrait and autographs, executed by Emile Bellot, of which only 325 copies have been struck off.

HIS new Christmas book, "Bébé à la Maison, 24 Dessins par L. Froehlich, Texte par une Maman," is another of the artist's happy delineations of the child-life of his little daughter.

AS illustrative of domestic life in the Low Countries in the Middle Ages, there has just appeared at Brussels, "Sire Louis Pynnock, Patricien de Louvain, ou Maleur du XV. Siècle: Etude de Mœurs et d'Histoire de la Période Bourguignonne, par Edmond Poulet."

M. CHARLES DU BOUZET has just issued, with an interesting historical introduction, "La Russie au XVI. Siècle, par Giles Fletcher, Ambassadeur d'Elizabeth d'Angleterre."

THE sale of the illustrated edition of "Les Misérables," published in penny numbers by Hertz, has already reached 120,000.

M. C. MUQUARDT of Brussels has just published "La Chanson de Roncevaux: Fragments d'anciennes Rédactions Thioises, avec une Introduction et des Remarques par J. H. Bormans."

M. DU CHAILLU was to leave the Fernand-Vaz river towards the close of August to explore the unknown countries between it and the Nile.

A NEW edition of that wittiest of books, "Epistolæ Obscurorum Virorum et Dialogus novus et mire festivus ex Obscurorum Virorum Salibus Cribatus" has just been published at Leipzig by Teubner, who issues at the same time "Pepericorni, Defensio contra famosas Obscurorum Virorum Epistolæ; Ortvini Gratii Lamentationes Obscurorum Virorum," as a companion to it.

THE geological section of the scientific portion of the voyage of the Austrian frigate *Novara* has just been published, with numerous plates, maps, and woodcuts, under the title of "Reise der Oesterreichischen Fregatte Novara um die Erde; Geologischer Theil; Erster Band. Erste Abtheilung: Geologie von Neu-Seeland von Dr. Ferdinand von Hochstetter." At the same time appeared the first portion of the statistical and commercial section of the work edited by Dr. Karl von Scherzer.

TWO volumes of a new German translation of Byron's works, by O. Gildemeister, have made their appearance. Creasy's "Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World" has been translated into German by A. Seubert. Channing's works have been published in a cheap form in German, the translation made by F. A. Schulze and A. Sydow; and Banting assumes a German dress as an independent essay, by J. Vogel, "Korpulenz: ihre Ursachen, Verhütung und Heilung durch einfache diätetischen Mittel, mit Benutzung der Erfahrungen von W. Banting."

ALFRED VON ARNETH's new novel, "Maria Theresia's erste Regierungsjahre," is very popular, as is also "Aus der Verbrecherwelt: Erfahrungen von A. Freiherrn von Seld."

PUBLISHED at the same time, in German and French, we have Wallace's "Le Danube de Vienne à Constantinople et aux Dardanelles: traduit de son ouvrage, Auf der Donau von Wien nach Constantinopel und nach den Dardanellen."

AMONGST other German books we have to notice the fifth volume of Ranke's "Englische Geschichte, vornehmlich im 16. und 17. Jahrhundert;" "Die Londoner Conferenzen zur Beilegung des Deutsch-Dänischen Streites, nach authentischen Quellen bearbeitet;" "William Hogarth und seine Zeit, oder London im 18. Jahrhundert: eine Sammlung von Stahlstichen nach Hogarth, mit Erzählungen von A. Görling;" "Handzeichnungen von Albr. Dürer nebst zwei plastischen Werken, in 16 Photographischen und Photolithographischen Nachbildungen nach den Originalen in Alexander Posonyi's Dürersammlung zu Wien;" and Finsch's "Neu-Guinea und seine Bewohner."

12 NOVEMBER, 1864.

THE *Centralblatt* (No. 43) reviews Draper's "History of the Intellectual Development of Europe" and "Die Londoner Conferenzen;" the *Gesetz und Zeugnis* (Nos. 10 and 11), Wiese's "Milton's Verlorne Paradies," Schwarzkopff's "Shakespeare in seiner Bedeutung für die Kirche," and Cairn's "Falsche Christi und der wahre Christus;" the *Allgemeine Literatur Zeitung* (No. 41), Thompson's "Hexe von Melton Hill;" the *Deutsches Museum* (No. 42), "Holland's Essays by Althaus;" *Freuzel's Unterhaltungen* (No. 42), Mark Lemon's "Wait for the End," "The Story of Elizabeth," and "Hettner's Literaturgeschichte des 18ten. Jahrhunderts;" and the *Bremer Sonntagsblatt* (No. 42), Löher's "Sicilien und Neapel," and Spiess's "Expedition nach Ostasien."

SOUTH-AMERICAN EXPLORATIONS OF DR. RICHARD SPRUCE.

A SHORT time ago there returned amongst us, after an absence of fifteen years, and much broken in health, a traveller whose explorations in South America are more extensive and of greater scientific value than any that have of late years been recorded. Their value will doubtless be as fully appreciated by the public at large when their results shall have become more generally accessible as they are now by those scientific men who have never lost sight of the enterprising explorer from the moment he left our shores till his happy return a few weeks ago. In Germany his services have been promptly recognised by the oldest scientific body of that country, the Imperial Academy Nature Curiosorum, which has conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, the highest honour it was in their power to bestow.

Dr. Spruce left Liverpool on the 7th of June, 1849, and reached Pará on the 12th of July. After spending three months in exploring the environs of that city, he ascended the Amazon to Santarem, at the mouth of the Tapajoz, and in November of the same year went seventy miles farther up, to Obydos, where the Amazon is at its narrowest and deepest. Starting from Obydos, he explored the Trombetas and its tributary the Aripicuri, as far as the cataracts of the latter, in lat. 0° 47' N., fixing five latitudes by astronomical observations, and making a map of those previously unknown rivers. Returning to Santarem in January 1850, he remained there exploring the lower part of the Tapajoz and adjacent parts of the Amazon until October, when he started up the Amazon for the Barra do Rio Negro, where he arrived after a voyage of sixty-three days, thirty whereof were spent in the channels to the south of the great island of Tupinambarana.

The greater part of the year 1851 was occupied in studying and collecting the rich vegetation of the lower part of the Rio Negro and of the Amazon for a few days' journey up; and in November he started for the head-waters of the Rio Negro, in a boat of about nine tons burthen, which he had fitted up expressly for the object. Early in January 1852 Dr. Spruce reached the village of Sao Gabriel, situated about midway between the *Cachoeiras*, or cataracts, of the Rio Negro; and, after remaining there some seven months, he proceeded up the large river Uaupés, which had been scarcely known to Europeans even by name until Mr. Wallace's adventurous exploration of it in the preceding year. Dr. Spruce found the Uaupés to possess a more novel and beautiful forest-vegetation than any other part of South America which he visited; and his collections include several undescribed genera, besides many species notable for their beauty and the value of their products. Dr. Spruce remained on the Uaupés until March 1853, when he sailed out of it into the Rio Negro, and up the latter river, beyond the Brazilian frontier, to San Carlos del Rio Negro. This village was his head-quarters during his stay in Venezuela, which extended to November 1854, or more than a year and a half. During that time he made two expeditions to the Orinoco—one by way of the Casiquiare, and the other by the portage of Pinichin and the Atabapo. On the former of these, besides examining the Casiquiare, both ascending and descending, he explored its tributary, the Pacimoni, to its source, among the lofty and picturesque mountains called Iméi and Tibiali, as also the river Cunucunuma, which bathes the western foot of the immense granite mass of Dinda, and enters the Orinoco a little below the bifurcation of the Casiquiare. On his second visit to the Orinoco he went as far down as the cataracts of Maypures, rendered

famous by the narrative of Humboldt and Bonpland. There and elsewhere, in the region of the Upper Orinoco and Rio Negro, he gathered many of the plants discovered by those illustrious travellers, and which had not been seen since by any botanist. He also constructed maps of the hitherto unsurveyed rivers Cunucunuma and Pacimoni.

Leaving Venezuela, he descended the Rio Negro, and reached the Barra do Rio Negro about the end of 1854, after an absence of above three years. Having reposed there over two months, he took advantage of the steamers which had been lately established on the Amazon to ascend that river beyond the Brazilian frontier to Nauta in Peru, near the mouth of the Ucayali; and from thence he went in canoes up the Marañon, and its tributary the Huallaga, to Tarapoto, a large and thriving town in the ancient province of Maynas. In the lovely valley of Tarapoto—which, like many similar ones in the eastern roots of the Andes, will one day be the site of a magnificent city, when the immense resources of the Amazon valley and its unrivalled fluvial system shall have been fully developed—he remained nearly two years, and collected there, besides a vast variety of other plants, no fewer than 250 species of ferns in an area of only fifty miles in diameter.

In March 1857 Dr. Spruce left Tarapoto for Ecuador, descending the Huallaga to its confluence with the Marañon, then ascending the latter river and its affluents the Pastaza and Bombonasa to Canelos; finally, through the forest of Canelos on foot to the village of Baños, at the foot of the volcano of Tunguragua. In this disastrous journey, which occupied a hundred days, he had to abandon all his goods in the forest to escape perishing of hunger at the passage of swollen rivers. Making Baños his head-quarters, he devoted above six months to the exploration of the forests and *paramos* of its huge volcano, and of the upper part of the valley of the Pastaza.

In January 1858 he removed to Ambato, which, for more than two years, was his point of departure for excursions to Quito, Riobamba, &c., and to various points in the eastern and western cordilleras of the Quitenian Andes, although his movements were much harassed and restricted by the revolutionary state of the country during nearly the whole of that period. In 1860 Dr. Spruce communicated a valuable paper to the Royal Geographical Society on the mountains of Llanganati, in the eastern cordillera of the Quitenian Andes (*Journal* for 1861, p. 163-84). He has also communicated numerous important papers to the Linnean Society.

In 1860 he was occupied for some months in procuring seeds and plants of the *Chinchona succirubra*, or red Bark plant, for cultivation in India—a task which was confided to him by Mr. Clements R. Markham, on behalf of Her Majesty's Government. Dr. Spruce displayed great zeal and resolution in performing this arduous service while suffering from the effects of rheumatic fever, and his labours received the unqualified approbation of the Secretary of State for India. His elaborate report on the expedition conducted by him to procure these seeds and plants (accompanied by a meteorological journal and a complete sketch of the vegetation of the Chinchona forests) is by far the best that has appeared on this subject in any language, and has been invaluable as a guide to the cultivation of these precious plants in India. It covers 112 printed pages. Afterwards, his broken health seeming to require a return to a warm climate, he removed to the plain of Guayaquil; and his active labours as a botanist may be said to have closed with the picking up of a few plants in that neighbourhood during the year 1861 and during 1862 at Chanduy, on the coast, near Punta Santa Elena, where an exceptional rainy season, coming after an interval of fifteen rainless years, enabled him to make a small but interesting collection of the ephemeral plants, which, under the influence of the rains, sprang up on the desert, and also of several curious trees and shrubs, whose blackened stems had not for some years past put forth even a leaf.

The results of this long course of travel (whose objects were at first purely botanical) comprise from 6000 to 7000 species of flowering plants and ferns, whereof a very large proportion were entirely new to science, especially among the trees, whose timber and other products were also ascertained to be in many cases of great value. Several new species may be instanced, and one entirely new genus, of trees producing the best kind of *caoutchouc*, which is now extracted from them in large quantities by the Brazilians, but which was not in use until Dr. Spruce pointed the trees out on the Rio Negro and elsewhere. His specimens of

all these plants are preserved in the principal public and private collections in the world, and are, therefore, perfectly accessible for the purposes of science. A very large collection of cryptogamic plants—perhaps the largest ever made by any single collector—still remains to be worked up.

Dr. Spruce's MSS. contain, besides notes on all the plants collected, vocabularies of twenty-one native languages of the Amazon valley, meteorological observations, barometric levellings, &c., throughout the regions visited, maps of three rivers which had not previously been surveyed, notes of travel of the aspects and capabilities of the various countries, of the customs, food, trade, and agriculture of their inhabitants.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[The Editor does not hold himself responsible for opinions entertained by Correspondents. Anonymous communications cannot be inserted.]

ILLUSTRATIONS OF SLANG, CANT, AND VULGAR WORDS.

To the Editor of THE READER.

Glasgow, Oct. 31st, 1864.

SIR,—Allow me to ask a share of the corner you promise for the above. If "vulgar" speech, like some vulgar men, can be refined by contact with "good" society, as your reviewer lays down, where is the dictionary-makers' line to be drawn? He gives the franchise to a host of the unwashed because Cotgrave has registered them in his international census-book, and even to "*Bum-bagillif*," on the recommendation of three respectable "Ten-pounders" of the first class. Now, I venture to think that this principle is relatively nearer universal suffrage than the six-pound franchise, and introduces the Chinese system, which ennobles retrospectively. But I say no more, as I am not prepared with anything positive and constructive. Whatever may be our duty, as conservators of the "Queen's English," as regards the use of slang, one need not lay down absolute penal laws against it and then directly break them, as Dean Alford does. Indeed, that gentleman reverses the process, for, in *Good Words* for 1863, p. 197, he uses *nurse* in the omnibus cad's sense, and four pages further on says, "Avoid all slang words. There is no greater nuisance in society," &c., &c. Then there is the "genteel" apologizing sinner, who merely uses it in "telling the tale as 'twas told" to him. Such is a City missionary, who begs pardon in the following exquisite sentence:—"The reader will probably excuse the vulgarities [street slang] contained in the previous statements, and will please not to imagine me as sympathizing in the least with vulgarity" (*Dens of London*, 1854, p. 12). I think even Charles Reade's Mrs. Dodd would have been mollified by that disclaimer. The illustrations which I subjoin are all (but one) from notes from old books. Should you be pleased to consider them worthy of printing, I may send more of the same sort, and some from current literature. I may recall here a few of the words, &c., I had supposed to be new, which a writer in *Notes and Queries* quoted the other day from Roger North:—"Riled," "To go to pot," "Nuts," "To chouse."—Yours, &c., J. D. O.

TO TIP THE WINK.

"If some alluring girl, in gliding by,
Shall tip the wink, with a lascivious eye,
And thou, with a consenting glance, reply."
—Dryden's *Trans. of Persius*, Sat. IV.

LIGHT-FINGERED.

"Is any tradesman *light-fingered*, and lighter-conscienced? Here [*Stolen waters are sweet*] is a whole feast of Fraudes, a table furnished with Trickes, conveyances, glossings, perjuries, cheatings."—1630. Thos. Adams. *Workes*, p. 170. "The Fatal Banket."

TO PIG.

"None of them [the immediate followers of George Fox the Quaker] had been inside of a coach; that was an exaltation far above their thoughts; as were fine houses and furniture to those who *pigg'd* in barns or stables, and under hedges. Silly, dirty draggeltails and nasty slovens, but now grown fine and rampant."—Leslie's "Second Defence of the Snake in the Grass," p. 356.

TO MAUND—MAUNDER—PAD.

"..... And every man to keep
In his own path and circuit.
Hig.—Do you hear?
You must hereafter *maund* on your own *pads*, he says.
..... Thou art our chosen.
Our king and sovereign, monarch of the *maunders*."
—1622. B. & F. "The Beggar's Bush," ll. 1.

MARROW-BONES.

"Phraates took his mace,
Kneeling upon his *marribones*
To Caesar's awful grace."
—1567. Draut's "Horace," E. iii., Ep. 12.
"The mob drank the king's health on their marrow-bones."—1714. *Spectator*, Nov. 5th.
"The [Oxford] scholars, in most of their disputes and quarrels with the townsmen or aliens, usually came off the best at last, and brought their adversaries down upon their marrow-bones to them."—1721. N. Amherst's "Terre Filius," p. 33.

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BY THE LIVING JINGO!

"After the dance had continued about an hour, the two ladies, who were apprehensive of catching cold, moved to break up the ball. One of them, I thought, expressed her sentiments in a very coarse manner, when she observed that, *by the living Jingo!* she was all of a muck of sweat."—"Vicar of Wakefield," chap. ix. (ed. 1827, p. 57).

Southey is said by a recent writer to have used this expression in his works. Where?

COCKSURE.

"Through the great blessings of these quiet years
We are so fearless, careless, and secure
In this our happy peace, and so cocksure."
—Geo. Wither ("Inconstancy").

SWIG—SWINGING (soft g).

"It is not like Lucina, who gets a hearty *swig* at the cauldron . . . a *swingy* bellyful of good cakes at the blithement."—1770. Phil. Skelton. Works, v., 216.

BROWN STUDY.

"They are much troubled and perplexed, whether myoe, eating the sacrament, doe also eat the body of Christ. Peter Lombard, Master of the Sentences [Sent. lib. 4., dist. 13], standeth in a *brown-study* and resteth in a muse and mammering, and cannot teach himselfe, saying, 'What is that the mouse receiveth? God knoweth.'"—1614. W. Attersoll. "The New Covenant," Ep. Ded.

TO WET.

"Must I stay till, by the strength of Terse claret, you have wet yourself into courage?"—Shadwell. "Humourists."

These first three are fossils. The last, read in the light of our current street-phrase "tightner," is a lesson in the "origin of language."

OXFORD CLINK.

"A play upon words is called an *Oxford clink* by Leicester, in Stradford's Let. i. 224."—Southey. Com. Book, Coll. "Cromwell."

MOURNING SHIRTS.

"We say *mourning shirts*, it being customary for men in sadness to spare the pains of their laundresses."—Thos. Fuller. "Piegan Sight," p. 98.

MAZARINE.

"I had procured a ticket through the interest of Mr. . . . who was one of the committee for managing the entertainment, and a mazarine" [a common-council man, from their wearing mazarine blue cloaks].—1761. Annual Reg., p. 238.

A CAFFRE'S "TIGHTNER."

"I asked him [a young black shepherd at the Cape] to sing; and he flung himself at my feet, in an attitude that would make Watts crazy with delight, and crooned queer little mournful ditties. I gave him sixpence, and told him not to get drunk. He said 'Oh, no! I will buy bread enough to make my belly stiff; I almost never had my belly stiff.' He likewise informed me that he had just been in the *troak* (prison), and, on my asking why, replied 'Oh! for fighting and telling lies.' Die liebe Unschuld!"—1864. Lady Duff Gordon's "Letters from the Cape."

P.S.—Many a word will, I dare say, by its absence, be recalled to readers of Mr. Hotten's Dictionary. Would it not be well to send him a note of these with definitions, even *without* a printed illustration? Better bare registration than none at all. National parallels are also interesting. Mr. Hotten has "Carry me out." Well, the equivalent "Federal" is "D'you tell?" But this is merely the comparative height of wonder. The superlative rhymes, but is profane, I regret to say. J. D. C.

To the Editor of THE READER.

SIR,—Perhaps the words and phrases below may find an appropriate place in any new edition of Mr. Hotten's Dictionary. As far as I am aware, they do not appear in any vocabulary. J. M. C.

HEMP—STRETCH HEMP, *sb.*, a candidate for the gallows.

"[He] feareth [not] to mocke the sacrament, the blessed body of God, and ful like a *stretch hemp*, call it but cake, bread, or starch."—1532. Sir T. More. "Confutation of Tyndale," Works, 1557, fol. 715, col. 1.

HEMP, &c.—"To wag hemp in the wind." To be hanged.

"Tindall calleth blessing and crosinge but wagging of folkes fingers in the ayre, and feareth not (like one yt would at length *wage hemp* in the winde) to mocke at all such miracles, and say the devil fleeth from folkes blessings as men flee from children, faining themselves afraid of them when they list to sport and play with them."—1532. Sir T. More. "Confutation of Tyndale," Works, 1557, fol. 715, col. 1.

GALLOWES GRASS, &c.—HEMP.

"Hemp is called in . . . English, Neckeweede and *Gallowesgrasse*."—1578. Lyte's Translation of Dodoe's "Historie of Planetes," fol. 72.

FARMER, &c.—A hare. Kent.

NECKLACE, &c.—A snare.

THE EARLY ENGLISH TEXT SOCIETY.

To the Editor of THE READER.

9th November, 1864.

SIR,—Though I sympathize greatly with your correspondent "A General Reader" in his desire that people who are too lazy or too busy to read Early English books as they were written should have modernized reproductions—that is, if *translations* be thereby meant—of the works in question, yet I should with great pleasure see hanged any editor who should now send out a mongrel text, half old and half new, with perfects and participles altered, forms of verbs changed, &c., &c., as a certain accursed and flunkeyish Elyot issued his ancestor's "Boke of the Governour" in the last generation.

Your correspondent could not do better than get up an "Early English Text Translation

Society;" it is an institution very much needed. Or, if he objects to that, let him get the present Early English Text Society a hundred or two new subscribers, on condition that they print translations with their texts. I have little doubt that the Committee and Editors of that Society would agree to these terms; but to ask them to spend half the little money they have on translations which neither they nor their members need, on the chance of getting subscribers who might never come, would be, I think, unreasonable. The fact is that any man who will give, say, forty hours work, or rather time, to the reading of Chaucer, "Piers Ploughman," or any other book before 1400 A.D., will find himself sufficiently master of the language to read any Early English books after 1250 with the glossaries that accompany them; and, after some practice with these, he will be able to attack the semi-Saxon texts of 1150—1250 with the assurance that he will not often be obliged to have recourse to the translations which usually accompany them, as in Mr. Morton's "Ancien Riwle," Mr. Cockayne's "Seint Marharete," &c. Surely any one who, like your correspondent, is a Latin scholar, and has given years to the study of that tongue, may fairly be asked to give as many weeks to gain a knowledge of the early stages of his own—a language as noble as was ever given to nation to possess; one that is, and is to be, the ruling speech of the world.—Yours, &c., F. J. F.

GERMAN LITERATURE IN ENGLAND.

To the Editor of THE READER.

King's College, London, Nov. 9, 1864.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to correct an erroneous statement contained in the last number of THE READER, with regard to my literary Lectures delivered at this College? It is there mentioned that I give them in German, "following the example set up by Professor Heimann," &c. Now I feel in "duty bound to declare" that, when I introduced a new feature into this College, it was firmly believed by myself and others that this was the first instance of Lectures on the history of German Literature being delivered in German to a general English audience. A statement somewhat to this effect went forth into the newspapers, and the zealous friends of the Doctor now raised a hue-and-cry and declared that he has taught his "senior pupils" the history of German Literature in German these sixteen years. So far so good. But why the matter should now be so represented as to make you and your readers believe that I *followed* the example set up by my friend I really do not understand, especially as I do not see that there is anything to be imitated, it being quite natural that we should deliver our lectures in German when we find an audience fit for them. I have been able to find such an audience; and it is evident that the original notice with reference to my literary Lectures was calculated to show the great progress which the German language has made in this country. The paragraph in question elicited the fact—which must have been unknown nearly to all except to the parties immediately concerned—that Professor Heimann has done something similar for some years. Nobody was more glad to be informed of this circumstance than myself, and I at once communicated it to several of your contemporaries.—Yours, &c., O. A. BUCHHEIM, Ph.D.

A WORD FOR DR. WATTS.

To the Editor of THE READER.

Killyleagh (Co. Down), 8th Nov., 1864.

SIR,—In THE READER for the 29th ult. (p. 538) one of your reviewers has quoted a line as from "that sweet bard Doctor Watts," which the good Doctor certainly never wrote. As this misquotation has been very generally made of late years—in the first instance I can hardly think without a knowledge that it was a misquotation—I trust that you will permit me to quote in your paper what Doctor Watts really wrote. The lines occur in one of his "Divine Songs for Children;" and, writing down to their capacity, he was very properly more attentive to the religious and moral than to the poetical character of his hymns. That he was not neglectful of the latter, however, in what he wrote for public worship may be inferred from the fact that many of his hymns are still used with acceptance in churches of the Establishment as well as in Dissenting chapels. But, even when he was writing for children, he never descended to such a colloquial vulgarity as that which your reviewer has attributed to him. I believe, also, that the particular clipping of the Queen's

English which occurs in the misquoted line was not in use even colloquially till the second or third decade of the present century, whereas Dr. Watts died in 1748; and I believe his "Divine Songs for Children" were published before 1700. The lines are these:—

"Let dogs delight to bark and bite,
For God hath made them so;
Let bears and lions growl and fight,
For 'tis their nature too."

Their nature too, or also—opposed to that of children, whose

"Little hands were never made
To tear each other's eyes."

—I am, &c., EDW. HINCKS.

QUEEN ELEANOR.

To the Editor of THE READER.

Temple, Nov. 5, 1864.

SIR,—It is in the nature of error to go on propagating itself on every occasion, until, in the absence of correction, it finds acceptance in preference to truth, precisely because, being a ready-made garment, the truth cannot be admitted to the same level without previous investigation and a confirmation which may prove more or less troublesome. This truism must be my excuse for troubling THE READER with a communication.

At a lecture recently delivered to working men by Major Whyte Melville in the Town Hall at Northampton, I observe that this gentleman, in speaking of the Queen's Cross near that town, describes Queen Eleanor as daughter of Alphonso, king of Castile, the same error having previously occurred in Mr. Hartshorne's otherwise very interesting "Historic Memorials of Northampton."

It is in the hope that the notice of this *lapses* in your columns may check its further progress that, as the result of my own reading, I beg to state that Queen Eleanor was the daughter of Ferdinand III. by his first wife Joan, daughter and heir to John, Earl of Ponthieu; so that, in her mother's right, Queen Eleanor was heir to that kingdom. Alphonso, who succeeded on the death of Ferdinand to the throne of Castile and Leon, was the brother, not the father, of Queen Eleanor.—I am, &c., JOHN ABEL.

MAY-DAY CUSTOMS.

To the Editor of THE READER.

4, Beecher Street, Bradford, Yorks.

SIR,—Kindly allow me, through the medium of your columns, to solicit the co-operation of such readers as feel interested in antiquarian lore in assisting me to become acquainted with whatever ceremonies they may be aware of, either ancient or practised at the present day, connected in any way whatever with May-day.

In case any communication should prove too lengthy for your pages, I shall feel obliged if the writer would kindly forward it to my address, which I give above.—Yours, &c. O. BACKHAM.

SCIENCE.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION AT BATH.

SECTIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

Section B.—CHEMICAL SCIENCE.

On the Production of Cold by the Expansion of Air. By Mr. A. C. Kirk.—The author employs a machine which, it will be seen, is allied to the air-engine in the same manner as the ether-machine is to the steam-engine. If we enclose a quantity of air in a strong vessel, into the top of which we fix a common air-syringe, and force the piston downwards by hand, we shall compress the enclosed air, which, by the power so spent, will be heated; and, if we now cool the whole apparatus down to its original temperature, and allow the air to force the piston gradually back, the air by the effort will be cooled; but, inasmuch as the cooled air will not occupy the same space as the air originally did, the piston will not return to the point at which it was when we commenced, and thus less power will be given out during the expansion of the air than was spent in its compression. It is not necessary that the air be at the atmospheric pressure; if air of greater density be employed, the cooling power of the machine will be increased. We have thus got an elementary cooling machine, and, as before, power is spent in working it. To render this a practicable machine, the first thing necessary is to perform the compressing or heating operation and the expansion or cooling operation in separate compartments—the one surrounded by water to ab-

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abstract the heat generated, and the other surrounded by the substance to be cooled, or from which heat is to be taken. The one compartment being thus very cold, and the other comparatively warm, the next thing is to provide means by which the air can be continually transferred from one to the other without carrying heat from the hot compartment to the cold. Thus, if the temperature of the hot compartment be 70°, and that of the cold zero, the air must enter the cold compartment preparatory to expansion at a temperature as nearly zero as possible, and, in returning to the hot compartment, must enter it preparatory to compression at a temperature as nearly 70° as possible. That beautiful invention of Stirling, the regenerator, or respirator, as it is sometimes called, composed ordinarily of a large quantity of wire gauze, through which the air passes, enables us to accomplish this very perfectly. When the machine is fairly going, the layers of gauze next the cool compartment become as cold as the compartment itself, and those next the hot compartment as hot, while the layers between those shade off through the intermediate grades of temperature. Thus the air, in passing from the hot to the cold compartment, warms the gauze and is itself cooled, and the cold air in returning is gradually warmed, cooling the gauze in its course; and, although the air is continually being passed backwards and forwards from the hot compartment to the cold, and *vice versa*, no heat is conveyed by it from the hot end to warm the cold and interfere with the cooling power of the air during expansion. Mr. Kirk concluded by saying that the advantages attending the use of his machine were—that no expensive or dangerous fluid was employed, involving risk of fire or suffocation to the attendants; that the cooling power might be reduced to any extent when required, the consumption of motive power being similarly reduced; and that cupped leather packings might be employed, which gave so little trouble that, in the first machine, one worked for four months without being touched.

Mr. Young said he was able to say that the machine was all that was ever expected. Former machines they had used always kept them in a state of bodily terror, and once they had a slight fire; but, by using this new machine, there was no longer any cause for fear. The machine was an extraordinary success. It went on day and night, without intermission and without trouble. With one ton of coal they could produce one ton of ice. It has the effect of the old ether-machine, without the loss of ether.

Contributions towards the Foundation of Quantitative Photography. By Professor Roscoe, F.R.S.—Professor Roscoe said the theory of the photographic processes having been hitherto in the first or qualitative stage, he had undertaken a series of experiments for the establishment of a quantitative photography, the method being based upon the experimental law, discovered by Professor Bunsen and himself, by virtue of which a constant product of the intensities of the acting light, with the times of exposure, always corresponded to a constant tint on the photographic paper. Hence, if several prepared papers were exposed to a constant light for varying periods of time, in order that they should all exhibit the same degree of tint, the reciprocals of these times of exposure represent the relative sensitiveness of the papers. By the help of the pendulum photometer the times during which the papers had been exposed were ascertained, and the degree of tint attained was read off by the soda light. Tables were constructed showing the variation in sensitiveness produced by increasing the strength of the solution of salts employed, and curves drawn representing this relation. The salts used were chloride of sodium, chloride of potassium, chloride of ammonium, and bromide of potassium. The next point ascertained was the fact that the sensitiveness of the paper did not vary with variation of the base with which the chlorine or bromine was combined. The third portion of the experiment referred to the comparison of the relative sensitiveness of various salts; a comparison of the sensitiveness of the chloride, bromide, and iodide, and mixtures of these. Professor Roscoe concluded by expressing his intention of continuing these experiments.

On Useful Applications of Slag from Iron Smelting. By Dr. Paul.—The author said slag was of a nature between porcelain and glass. Attempts had been made to cast the slag into blocks as it issued from the furnace, to be afterwards used as artificial stone; but all attempts of this kind had failed. The application proposed with slag at the present time was to convert it into bricks for building. This was done by a simple and ingenious contrivance. A gentleman

had succeeded in blowing the slag into a state of very fine division by sending steam or air into it, just as it flowed from the blast-furnace in the liquid state. It was thus blown into a substance resembling wool in appearance. This substance was taken and ground into dust, mixed with lime, subjected to powerful pressure, and made into bricks, of which he exhibited some examples. These bricks required no fire. After being pressed they were allowed to dry, and could be used at once, the influence of the atmosphere producing a slow kind of hardening. It was also intended to use the powder as a manure.

On some Bituminous Substances. By Dr. T. Anderson.

Description of an Apparatus for Estimating the Organic Impurities in Atmospheric Air and in Water. By Mr. Stewart Clark.

On the Utilization of Sewage. By Dr. H. Bird.

On an Apparatus for the Preservation or Disengagement of Sulphuretted Hydrogen, Carbonic Acid, or other Gases. By Mr. Maxwell Lyte.

On the Medicinal Muds of the Island of Ischia. By Dr. Phipson.

On the Colouring of Agates. By Professor Tennant.

On a Specimen of Tin Ore hitherto undescribed. By Mr. Fred. Field.

On the Precipitation of Aluminous Silicates from Solution. By Dr. Sullivan.

On the Composition of certain Organic Dyes. By Professor Wanklyn.

On the Molecular Constitution of Carbon Compounds. By Mr. A. R. Catton.

Memorandum on Ozone. By Dr. G. Kemp.

On Isomorphism. By Professor Williamson, F.R.S.

Account of the Mode adopted at the Bradford Union for the Utilization of Sewage. By Mr. W. Gee.

On the Disposal of Town Refuse. By Dr. Paul.

On Reaumur's Porcelain. By Mr. Alfred Noble.

Some Observations on the Constitution of the Atmosphere. By Mr. S. Mossman.

Section C.—GEOLOGY.

On Organic Remains in the Laurentian Rocks of Canada. By Sir W. E. Logan, F.R.S.; Dr. J. W. Dawson, F.R.S.; Mr. T. Sterry Hunt, F.R.S.—The Laurentide mountains in Canada, and the Adirondachs in New York State, are composed of the oldest known rocks in North America; and these have been recognised by the Geological Survey of Canada as a great metamorphosed mass of crystalline strata, quartzose, aluminous, calcareous, and magnesian, divisible into two groups, the Lower and the Upper Laurentian rocks, probably more than 30,000 feet thick. These also, though not recognised separately, occur also in North Britain, as well as in Norway. Something like fossil corals had been observed years since in the Laurentian limestone of the Grand Calumet and of Burgess; but no definite organic structure was found in them. Lately, a marble from the Lower series in Canada has yielded to the microscope evidence of organic structure, which Dr. Dawson identifies as being represented among known organisms, firstly, by small, cellular, sessile shell-growth, like that of the *Foraminifera*, known as *Polytrema* and *Carpenteria*; and, secondly, by radiating and otherwise arranged tubuli in the shell-walls, only represented in recent or fossil forms by the "vascular system" of the shells of some *Foraminifera*. Hence, although the organism that has given mass to the limestone in question had a wide-spread growth, with layer after layer in considerable thickness, forming a reef by itself, yet Dr. Dawson finds it to be *Foraminiferal* in its character, and therefore refers it to the Rhizopods, with the name of *Eozoön Canadense*. The structure of this fossil is often lost in the altered limestone, especially when dolomitic; but in some cases magnesian silicates (augite, serpentine, &c.) have replaced the sarcode or jelly-flesh of the rhizopod, even in the tubuli or "vascular system." Hence the order and shape of the chambers are more or less distinctly traceable, and the tubuli are replaced by threads of mineral matter, remaining after the calcite has been removed by dilute acid. Dr. Dawson, however, in transparent slices under the microscope, made out the structure of *Eozoön* before specimens that could be dissected by acid had been experimented upon; and the latter confirmed the results he had arrived at. The silicates replacing the sarcode of the original animal are white pyroxene, serpentine,

loganite, and pyralloite or rensselaerite. Sometimes the shell-skeleton has been replaced by dolomite, and then the finer details of structure are lost. The authors state that the structure of this serpentine marble suggests that it has been built up as a great *Foraminiferal* reef; the pyroxenic masses representing the older portions, successively broken up and worn down, and covered by new growths of *Eozoön*, represented by the calcareo-serpentine portions. Mr. Sterry Hunt observes that this marble shows that the formation of magnesian silicates was not incompatible with the existence and preservation of organic forms, and that these silicates have resulted, not from subsequent metamorphism at great depths, but from reactions going on at the earth's surface, as he has already pointed out in published papers with regard to the deposition of silicates from natural waters. The magnesian silicates associated with the *Eozoön* may have been formed by the direct action of alkaline silicates, either dissolved in surface water or in those of submarine springs, upon the calcareous and magnesian salts of the sea-water. Mr. Sterry Hunt is now conducting experiments towards the elucidation of these facts.

On the Thermal Water of the Clifford Amalgamated Mines, Cornwall. By Mr. Warington Smyth, F.R.S.—"In the neighbourhood of Redruth, and situated mostly in the parish of Gwennap, is a district equally remarkable for the high temperature of its deep mine-workings and for the enormous value of the copper ores extracted from them within the last half century. The constituent rock of this region is mostly the clay-slate, or *killas*, which, abutting against the granite dome of Carn Marth, dips away from that hill towards the east, and has not been unbottomed in the deepest mines about to be mentioned, although there can be no reasonable doubt that the granite would be found occurring again beneath it. The clay-slate is intersected by dikes of *elvan* or granitic-porphry, coursing in an east and west direction; by lodes or mineral veins having on the whole a very similar line of strike; and by cross-courses, or non-metalliferous veins, running north and south. The more notable mines of this district have been Poldice, Wheal Jewell, Ting Tang, Wheal Squire, the Consolidated Mines, the United Mines, and Wheal Clifford, worked with various success to depths of from 1000 to near 1900 feet from the surface. . . . It is above a quarter of a century ago that a valuable series of observations on the temperature of the water of mines in Cornwall was made by Mr. William Jory Henwood, F.R.S.; and his exact tables of statement and deduction showed the Redruth district to be one of the most remarkable for the high temperature, in its deep working places, of the waters, whether issuing from the lodes or from the encasing rocks. . . . In the year 1839, a perpendicular shaft having been sunk to a greater depth than that at which the Old Lode of the United Mines had hitherto been worked, a cross-cut was driven from it at the 180 fathom level (about 225 fathoms deep), which intersected the vein at a spot about a quarter of a mile farther west than the points at present in operation; and here a large feeder of water was encountered, of so much higher temperature than had before been observed, that it was at once termed a hot spring, and the lode the 'hot lode.' A splendid course of copper ore rewarded the spirit of the adventurers, and has been followed up eastward and downward ever since. The shaft being deepened by successive stages, it has been found that, at each deeper point at which the chief flow of water has been seen, it has been prevented by the excavations from rising farther upward, and has shown a marked accession of temperature. . . . Although 122° was the highest degree of heat which I observed, I think it highly probable that, when the hotter level, the 225, is advanced a little farther eastward, the temperature will be found in the chief gush of water somewhat higher. The circumstance of the hot springs being attendant upon the rich and cindery-looking, loose-textured course of ore has induced many to look for the cause of the high temperature in the decomposition of the pyrites; but the absence of sulphates of copper and iron in the water, and the fact that, where most exposed to oxidation nearer the surface, the rich lodes never exhibit phenomena so remarkable, appear sufficiently to set aside such a hypothesis. We shall therefore have to look to deep-seated sources of heat, such as have been adverted to by Sir C. Lyell in his Address, for a more probable explanation of the observed appearances. . . . For the understanding of the phenomena of these thermal waters, the following circumstances deserve attention:—They appear to

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have been found only on the workings attaining a certain depth, above which they were prevented from rising in large volume, and at their exceptionally high temperature. This may be accounted for, partly by the closer texture of the lode, which was small and poor above that level, and partly, as appears probable, by the diffusion of the waters over a large area—certainly along this line of lode, if not extending to others of the neighbouring lodes, where hot water has been cut at medium depths. The very hot spring cut at Poldice, as mentioned above, can hardly be the same as the Clifford, since between the two mines are situate the Consolidated mines, which were worked to a greater depth than either, without intercepting it. Along the old or hot lode, however, it is about one mile from Poldory to the present ends in Wheal Clifford, throughout which distance exceptionally hot water has been cut at intervals; and the principal outlet has travelled a quarter of a mile eastward in the last twenty years. A comparison of the temperatures at equal depths, in the ten different districts tabulated in Mr. Henwood's Table II., establishes the curious fact that, at a shallow horizon down to about 100 fathoms, the Redruth district exhibited a lower average than the mean of the whole, and only on getting below 150 fathoms took the lead of the others. As regards the increment of temperature, it is somewhat startling. Between my last two visits, made at an interval of nine years, on both of which I carried down trustworthy thermometers, the point of issue of the hottest water had been deepened 30 fathoms, or 180 feet, and the temperature was increased by 8° F. This would give 1° for 22½ feet; whilst a comparison with Mr. Henwood's observation at Poldory would give a much higher ratio, 1° for 16 feet. The same uniform rate of increase would bring us to the boiling point of water at an additional depth of from 1440 to 2000 feet. The facts are thus so full of interest, physical as well as chemical, that it is to be hoped the commercial success of the last increase of depth may be great enough to lead to a further advance into the deep."

On the Rhatic or Penarth Beds of the Neighbourhood of Bristol and the South-West of England. By Mr. W. H. Bristow, F.R.S.—In this paper Mr. Bristow stated that the Directors of the Geological Survey, being desirous of learning how far the Rhatic strata were capable of being represented by means of a separate colour on the Survey-map, he visited some of the localities in the West of England where the beds in question were best displayed; and, in company with his colleague Mr. Etheridge, he measured sections of them at Saltford, Uphill, Aust, Gardan-Cliff, Watchet, Penarth, and other places. The general section of these beds in the neighbourhood of Bristol was then described, and illustrated by means of diagrams. The middle part was shown to be a mass of black paper-shales containing *Avicula contorta*, a shell eminently characteristic of the formation, and thin beds of a tough bluish-grey limestone, coarsely fissile, and containing great numbers of another characteristic shell, *Pecten Valoniensis*, as well as *Cardium Rhaticum*, &c. It is towards the lower part of these paper-shales that the bed so well known to collectors by the name of the "Aust Bone-bed" is met with at Aust Passage, at Gardan-Cliff, near Westbury-on-Severn, at Penarth, and in other localities in the West of England. In those localities, as well as at the Patchway-Cutting of the South-Wales Union Railway, this curious bed contains immense numbers of the bones, teeth, and scales of fishes and saurians, together with their fossil excrement (coprolites)—becoming in places a true bone-breccia, and very commonly highly pyritiferous. The lower portion of the Rhatic strata consists of alternations of hard and soft marls, passing gradually into the red and green marls of the Keuper formation, upon which they are based. The junction with the overlying lias is of a more decided nature, and is denoted by the presence of *Ostrea liassica*, *Modiola minima*, and *Ammonites planorbis* in the lowest Lias; the two former shells being especially abundant and well preserved at Penarth, and the last in the shales at Watchet. The well-known "Cotham-marble," or "Landscape-stone" of the dealers in polished rocks at Bristol, is almost universally met with in the lower part of the White Lias series of the neighbourhood of Bristol and in Dorsetshire, and thus affords an easily recognised horizon of great value in defining the upper boundary of the Rhatic series. As it is desirable that a name borrowed from a British locality should be used on the map of the Geological Survey to denote the Rhatic beds, he was induced to recommend, at the suggestion of the Director-General, that the term

"Penarth Beds" should be adopted for that purpose.

On some Forms of Olenoid Trilobites from the Lowest Fossiliferous Rocks of Wales. By Mr. J. W. Salter.—This paper was illustrated by elaborate diagrams, and Mr. Salter exhibited various specimens. The author explained that in the lowest rocks were chiefly found the blind Trilobites, and that the group gradually rose in organization as it advanced. There was evidently progressive development in the order.

On the Old Pre-Cambrian (Laurentian) Island of St. David's, Pembrokeshire. By Mr. J. W. Salter.

On some New Points on the Structure of Palæchinus. By Mr. W. H. Bailey.—The genus *Palæchinus*—a fossil echinoderm of great beauty, almost entirely confined to the Carboniferous epoch—includes several species, all the described forms of which occur in Ireland. The author was fortunate enough to trace in the species (*P. elegans*) the arrangement of the plates composing the apical disc—an important part of the shell, which has not hitherto been described. The great difference between these ancient Echini and those of more recent date consists in the possession by the former of a much more numerous series of interambulacral plates, and a corresponding larger number of rows of holes, or poriferous zones, the genus *Palæchinus*, as far as at present known, having from four to seven columns of these interambulacral plates, whilst the Echini of the Secondary, Tertiary, and Recent periods are confined to two rows only. It became, therefore, a matter of interest to know whether the plates composing the apical disc would exhibit any change corresponding with that of the great increase in the number of the interambulacral plates. It is found that the principal plates are the same in number and position, although differing somewhat in their proportions. The great peculiarity and most remarkable difference between this part of the structure of *Palæchinus* and the recent Echinidæ consists in the double perforation of the ocular and triple perforation of the genital plates. Another addition to the structure of this interesting Palæozoic Echinus, not hitherto noticed, is that of the spines.

Dr. Wright remarked that the development of the Trilobites did not at all bear out the theory of Mr. Darwin. The star-fish of the present day was precisely the same as it was in the time of the oldest specimen that had ever been discovered in the earliest formations.

Mr. J. W. Salter contested this opinion, as did Mr. Pengelly, and illustrated their views by a reference to drawings of specimens of various kinds of star-fish.

On the Occurrence of the same Fossil Plants in the Permian Rocks of Westmoreland and Durham. By Sir R. I. Murchison, F.R.S.—Certain forms of fossil plants not previously known in the Permian rocks of the north-east of England have been found by Mr. Lyall in the marl-slate under the magnesian limestone of Westhoe, Durham. These, one of which is a well-known species (*Ullmannia selaginoides*), were all identical with those found by Professor Harkness in the plant-bearing shales of the Permian rocks of Westmoreland (see *Jour. Geol. Soc.*, vol. xx., p. 154). Sir Roderick further remarked that, by the occurrence of these plant-beds, the sandstones and conglomerates of Westmoreland have been shown to be the true equivalents of the calcareous Permian rocks in Durham.

On the Connexion between the Crag Formations and the recent North-Pacific Faunas. By Dr. P. P. Carpenter.—The object of this paper was to direct the attention of geologists to the evidence of a connexion between the British seas and the North Pacific, more direct than through Behring Straits, during the epochs of the Crag. This evidence, as far as the molluscs of Vancouver and California are concerned, is tabulated in the Newcastle volume of Reports, pp. 682, 683. Other proofs are given in the same Report, by a comparison of Pacific and Atlantic shells and fossils, that the configuration of North America has undergone material alteration since the creation of existing species.

On the Relations of the Silurian Schists with the Quartzose Rocks of South Africa. By Dr. R. N. Rubidge.—Former geologists have separated the clay-slate of Cape Town from the schists of the east and the interior; but the author had conjectured, some years ago, that the schists and slates throughout the colony belonged to one great formation. This the author now clearly establishes by the production of Devonian fossils from many localities both in the eastern and western divisions of the colony. The principle

which led the author to establish this fact was the change of rocks of different ages into continuous quartzites. This change, he gave reasons for thinking, was due to molecular action with the aid of water, and was chiefly superficial.

On the Foraminifera of the Upper and Middle Lias. By Mr. H. B. Brady.—After enumerating the few scattered memoirs which form the scanty literature of the subject, a brief outline was given of the great Nodosarian group, to which almost all the Rhizopods of the Upper and Middle Lias belong. Passing allusion was also made to the so-called "nummulite" of the Lias (*Involutina*). The author is at present engaged upon the Liassic Foraminifera generally, and exhibited a series of drawings of the species occurring in the upper and middle portion of the series.

On the Position and Mode of Working the Bath Stone in the Bath District. By Mr. J. Randall.—This paper had reference to two subjects, both of equal local interest—the one in an economical and commercial point of view, and the other bearing upon the scientific conditions, both as regards the mode of working and geological position of those beds in the great or Bath Oolite, which may be called the "quarry stone," and which are so extensively worked in the Bath district. The author determined the true horizon or geological position of the workable beds of this freestone in the series termed the great Oolite, and, secondly, entered upon the mode of "working and getting."

The President and Mr. J. G. Jeffreys bore testimony to the great value of this paper.—We regret we have not space for it.

Note on some of the Oolitic Strata seen at Dundry. By M. Hébert.—These were identical with those which the author had observed in France, the chief features of both being their excessive hardness and contained fossils.

On the Formation and Condition of the Ice in certain Ice-Caves of the Jura, Vosgain Jura, Dauphiné, and Savoy. By the Rev. G. F. Browne.

On a Cast of a peculiar Fossil found in the Mesozoic Sandstone of the Connecticut Valley. By Professor W. B. Rogers.

On Otolites. By Mr. E. S. Higgins.

On the South Wales Mineral Basin. By Mr. A. Bassett.—The author traced the progress of the district from the last century to the present time and the improvements that have been introduced in working it.

Notice of Carnassial and Canine Teeth, which probably belong to Felis Antiqua, from the Mendip Caves. By Mr. W. A. Sanford.—A highly interesting paper, giving the results of all the explorations of the celebrated caves in this locality, and contrasting the results with other cave researches.

On the Geognostic Relations of the Auriferous Quartz of Nova Scotia. By Mr. H. C. Salmon.

Notice of the latest Labours of the Imperial Geological Institute of the Austrian Empire. By M. F. von Hauer.

On the Origin of certain Rocks and on the Ossiferous Caverns of the South of Devonshire. By Mr. H. C. Hodge.

On Agates found on our Coasts. By Professor Tennant.

On the Newer Pleiocene Fauna of the Caverns and River Deposits of Somersetshire. By Mr. Boyd Dawkins.

On the Development of Ammonites. By Dr. T. Wright.

Notice of some Geological Appearances in the North-West of Morocco. By Dr. T. Hodgkin.

Section D.—ZOOLOGY AND BOTANY.

On the Anatomy of Quadrumana, with a Comparative Estimate of the Intelligence of Apes and Monkeys. By Dr. Crisp.—This paper was illustrated by numerous diagrams, skulls, ear- and other bones of the gorilla, orang, chimpanzee, gibbon, and those of many of the lower quadrumana. The plan which the author has pursued in his investigations consists in taking casts, in plaster of Paris and in wax, of the most important parts of the animal, including the thoracic, the abdominal, and the pelvic viscera, the brain, eyes, and such portions of the muscles and of other parts that present peculiarities of form or structure. The alimentary tube is inflated and dried, as are also the larynx and trachea. These parts are shown together, with the skeleton and with the stuffed or prepared specimen (when not too large), so that the animal and its anatomy are at once revealed to the spectator. "If this system were followed in our museums of natural history the structure of animals in relation to their habits might readily be known, and the

study of comparative anatomy, now so little attended to, might be made both instructive and agreeable." The bones of a large orang, brought from Borneo by the late Sir Stamford Raffles, were exhibited to show the great proportional difference between the fore extremities of this brute, the height of which was about four feet two inches; the expanse of the arms, from tip to tip of the longest finger, was seven feet eleven inches, whereas, in man, this expanse was equal to his height. The curvature of the phalanges was pointed out, the sulci in some of these phalanges, and the thick pad at the flexure of the fingers and toes; the two last peculiarities Dr. Crisp believed had not before been noticed. The skull presented a less brutish aspect than that of the gorilla, the ridges being smaller and the brain-case more elevated. The visceral anatomy of the chimpanzee and orang was next described, and the differences between the various organs and those of man pointed out. The author then referred to the habits of the two apes. "Although the approach of these animals to the form and movement of man is the nearest among the members of the brute creation, I am not aware, although I have watched both of them, and made careful inquiries of the keepers of these and of others that I have seen, that they possess any degree of intelligence over many of the lower quadrumana, or, indeed, beyond that of the dog or elephant. I need not repeat the well-known descriptions of some of the anthropoid apes. In point of intelligence these apes appear to be on a par, although the orang, notwithstanding his supposed anatomical inferiority, has, I believe, exhibited more evidence of sagacity. The mode of progression, however, in the chimpanzee is more man-like, the soles of the foot being placed on the ground, whilst, in the orang and gorilla, the side only is applied. I have observed one habit of the orang that I think worthy of notice: when eating, and the animal is doubtful as to the nature of the food, the morsel is protruded on the edge of the lower lip, this part being so much elongated as to allow of a careful inspection by the eyes. One of the most remarkable anthropoid apes that I have seen was an orang that, many years since, belonged to the Zoological Society; she rejoiced in the unaristocratic name of 'Jinny,' was about two years old when she arrived at the Gardens, and had lived there three years (longer, I believe, than any of her kind). 'Jinny' would blow out a candle, unlock a door, putting the key into the lock herself, rub a window with a cloth, put sugar into her tea, and pour the tea into the saucer and drink it; use a needle and thread, and many imitative acts of this kind. But, in all these acts, it must be remembered that there is no evidence of superior intelligence to that exhibited by the dog or the elephant: it is only the mechanism of the hand that gives this animal the advantage; and it is questionable whether the above-named quadrupeds are not a degree above the man-like apes in intelligence and sagacity."

In conclusion, the author remarked that he could have enumerated a great number of examples to show that, in some points, many of the monkeys have a nearer resemblance to man than the anthropoid apes, and draws the following conclusions:—(1) That the anthropoid apes, both anatomically and in reference to their amount of intelligence, are not entitled to the elevated position in which they have been placed by some anatomists; (2) that the line of demarcation between man and these brutes is so wide and clearly defined as to entitle the human family, as maintained by Blumenbach, Cuvier and others, to a separate and exclusive division in the animal scale.

Professor Rolleston, F.R.S., in a long speech, called the attention of the meeting to certain statements of Dr. Crisp which he considered to be erroneous. Dr. Crisp had asserted that the method of displaying anatomical preparations in our public museums of comparative anatomy was, in some respects, extremely deficient, and more particularly in regard to the anatomy of the brain, which could only be illustrated by casts such as he had been in the habit of making. Professor Rolleston thought Dr. Crisp had done injustice to the authorities presiding over our public institutions, and especially to Mr. Flower, the conservator of the Hunterian Collection, who, by great labour and perseverance, had made and displayed in that institution, a most beautiful series of casts of the brains of the higher animals, which might, in some respects, be regarded as unique. Dr. Wright of Dublin had also executed a fine series of casts.

Dr. Crisp said that the plan adopted of taking casts of the various organs was very common, and had been adopted for a long time, but his system

showed the animal with its anatomy. As regards the correctness of his statement respecting the size of the blood-corpuscles in the chimpanzee and orang, it was confirmed by the examinations of Mr. Gulliver, whose researches were well known. Dr. Rolleston was in error in his statement respecting the comparative size of the brain in man. In many of the smaller monkeys it was relatively larger than in man. If we look to a lower grade of the animal chain—some of the rodents and small birds—the brain was relatively larger than in men.

On the Pedicellariæ of the Echinodermata. By Dr. Herapath. — These remarkable forceps-like bodies have not received that attention from microscopists which their beauty and peculiarities demand, and many observers have wholly mistaken their significance, as the name by which they are known bears witness; one of these calcareous pedicellariæ, on account of its remarkable resemblance in form to the head of a mammal, was even recently announced as such, and as having been found at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean in deep-sea soundings by a celebrated and well-known naturalist, until Professor Busk came to the rescue. The collection and investigation of these pedicellariæ has been a work of considerable time, having occupied the author during the leisure moments of several years. With regard to the probable nature of the pedicellariæ, a growing feeling has arisen amongst naturalists that they are organs peculiar to the animals upon which they are found, and useful for defence or prehension, which, although not absolutely necessary to the existence of the echinoderm, were yet peculiar and special to the genus, and even indicative of the species as the form of a tooth or the character of a bone. In the same way that an animal may be recognised by its tooth, or an echinus by its spine, it would be equally possible to assert positively that a certain pedicellaria belonged to *Uraster glacialis* or to *Amphidotus communis*. The author has hitherto found only pedicellariæ in the genera *Uraster*, *Spatangus*, *Amphidotus*, and *Echinus*, having examined many other genera of Echinodermata for them ineffectually. The Holothuriadæ also want pedicellariæ; for the calcareous spicules and perforated plates existing in these echinoderms are the analogues of the pentagonal plates constituting the shell of the Echini, whilst the oral tentacles are quite free from calcareous appendages. In the genus *Synapta* the perforated plates and anchor-shaped appendages may possibly be thought to bear some nearer resemblance to pedicellariæ; but a closer inspection of these peculiar bodies will convince us that these perforated plates are also the analogues of the pentagonal plates of an echinus shell, whilst the anchors are merely modifications of the spines, and are used as organs for prehension or locomotion, and assist the animal in rising its vermiform body to the mouth of its tube, the anchors being withdrawn during the period of contraction of the synapta, and contributing little or nothing to the powers of defending the animal from the attacks of its predatory enemies. It appears to be generally established as a fact that the pedicellariæ continue their movements even hours after the animal has been crushed to pieces and to all appearance dead; yet such apparently independent movements cannot be satisfactorily adduced at the present day as evidence of individual vitality, as the existence of such involuntary motions in the lower animals depending on muscular irritability and reflex excito-motory actions are well known to all physiologists, whilst even the leg of a man has been observed to move vigorously some time after amputation. All pedicellariæ agree in having a calcareous framework of great beauty, consisting of several pieces united together, and covered by a fleshy, sensitive musculo-membranous envelope, continuous with the common integument of the animal. The pedicellariæ on the genera *Amphidotus*, *Spatangus*, and *Echinus* possess, in addition, a calcareous style or stem, which is also covered by a prolongation from the skin or gelatinous envelope of the animal; and the basal end of the skin is enlarged for articulation with a small knob or elevation upon the shell adapted to its reception in a ball and socket-like movement. Few objects are of greater beauty than the pedicellariæ of the Echinodermata, as the highly reticulated character of the structure, the brilliant transparency of the crystalline substance, a sparkling, germ-like elegance fully testify. But all these characters may be elicited by ordinary examination in the microscope, with transmitted, reflected, or oblique rays falling upon them. Yet the highly, doubly refracting properties of carbonate of lime, or Iceland spar, of which they are composed, make them

still more lovely objects when they are examined by polarized light; the pedicellariæ themselves being their own analysers, by double refraction the transparent colourless valve of pedicellariæ becomes either red or green, blue or yellow, according to the thickness of the selenite plate beneath them. Some Echini are well supplied with a deep purple colouring matter, which gives a beautiful tinge to the spines.

Some Observations on the Salmonidæ, chiefly relating to their Generative Function. By Dr. J. Davy. — It is now accepted as an established fact that the young of the salmon in its parr-stage has, in the instance of the male, the testes fully developed, so as to be capable of impregnating the ova of the adult fish. Remarkable and anomalous as this must be admitted to be, it is the more so considering that, in the female parr of the same age, the ovaries are merely in their rudimentary state, and are indeed so small that they may readily escape observation and give rise to the opinion that the parrs are exclusively males. The author next referred to the time when the salmon and sea-trout begin to breed, and to the question—Do they breed yearly or on alternate years? "The generally received opinion, I believe, is that their fertility is continuous from year to year. From such observations as I have made, I am disposed to doubt the correctness of this conclusion, and to infer that their breeding takes place rather in alternate years, or at least not in successive years."

Sir W. Jardine remarked that, with regard to the salmon breeding yearly, or in alternate years, the number of barren fish occasionally taken was presumptive of their breeding in alternate years. If Dr. Davy would go to the river Tweed in the end of November, and fish with salmon roe (which was now forbidden), he might kill a basket full of the *Salmo croix* all in a fit condition for the table.

On some New Species of Hydroid Zoophytes, and on the Classification and Terminology of the Hydroida. By Rev. T. Hincks. — After describing briefly some new and beautiful forms of Hydroida, the author criticized the cumbrous Greek terminology that was finding its way into works on this class, and contended, in the interests of science, for the use of a simpler scientific language, which might be equally effective, and would not repel the student, or throw unnecessary difficulties in his way.

A short conversation followed, some of the speakers defending the modern system of terminology, and others agreeing with the author of the paper in condemning it. Mr. Hincks pointed out that the Germans employed their own language in describing the various animals enumerated by them.

On the Medusoid of a Tubularian Zoophyte, and its Return to the Fixed Condition after the Liberation of the Ova. By Rev. T. Hincks.

On the Turdus Torquatus observed in Devonshire. By Dr. Scott. — Amongst the various feathered visitors that take up a summer residence amongst us there is perhaps none that is less generally seen than the *Turdus torquatus*, though the range over which its visits extend reaches from Devonshire to the Hebrides. These birds, however, are not so rare as they appear. While, in its appearance and size, the *Turdus torquatus* approaches near to the *Turdus mesula* in its habits, it differs considerably from the true wood-thrushes, and approaches more to the habits of those which Mr. Vigors has ranked under the genus *Petrocenda*. Indeed, in Devonshire, one of the names of the *torquatus* is the rock-ousel.

On some Curious Trap-door Spiders from Corfu. By Mr. R. F. Wright. — This spider makes a dwelling-place for himself by excavating in a sloping bank a circular hole about three inches in depth by one-third in diameter; this he lines with a silky web, and at the mouth of the hole he fixes, in a most artistic manner, a circular door, with a hinge, composed of clay moistened with the glutinous substance of which the web is composed. This door he always shuts after going in or out. As soon as he finds a stranger at his door he secures it on the inside, possibly by holding it down with his claws, which are very powerful. It is necessary to use some force to open the it.

On the Genus Synapta. By Dr. Herapath.

On Euphorbiaceæ. By Dr. Muller.

On the Development of Cysticercus. By Dr. W. Brittain.

On a very Ancient Human Cranium from Gibraltar. By G. Busk, F.R.S. — We shall return to this communication.

On the Whalebone Whale of the British Coasts. By Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S.

On the Testimony of Local Phenomena to the Permanence of Type. By Dr. Beddoe.

Sub-Section D.—PHYSIOLOGY.

On the Inhalation of Oxygen Gas. By Dr. Richardson.—The paper was supplementary to one read at the Oxford meeting. The author said his experiments on the inhalation of oxygen had led him to an almost precise knowledge of the condition under which oxygen would most freely combine with blood. It had been stated, in almost every modern work on physiology, that oxygen inhaled in the pure form is a narcotic poison. These statements are based on the researches of Mr. Braughton, in which the late Sir Benjamin Brodie took part. The observations of Mr. Braughton, in so far as the recital of the phenomena observed by him were concerned, were strictly correct, but the inferences that had been drawn from him were nearly altogether incorrect, and were, at the best, so narrow as to be comparatively valueless. In fact, Mr. Braughton had seen but one form of oxygen inhalation. The author next stated that the influence of oxygen in inhalation was modified—(1) by dilution of the oxygen, (2) by dilution of the blood, (3) by the activity of the oxygen, (4) by the presence or absence in the blood of bodies which stop combination. On the point of dilution of oxygen, Dr. Richardson stated that a certain measure of dilution was required, not because the body consumed too quickly in pure oxygen, but because neutral oxygen would not combine with the carbon of the blood unless it were diluted. In atmospheric air the dilution is just sufficient to do more than alter combination; and the quantity of oxygen may be increased, with absorption at 60° F., if the oxygen is raised in amount to three parts of the gas to two of nitrogen. Beyond this, the combining power is reduced, and oxygen is not absorbed. Hence animals die in the gas as it approaches the pure state; they die not by a narcotic process, but by a process of negation. On the point of dilution of the blood, the author said that blood possessing a specific gravity of 1053 seemed to have most steady power in absorbing oxygen, as it existed in common air; by increasing the quantity of water in the blood to a limited extent—say, until it lowered the blood to 1060—the absorption of oxygen is increased to a maximum, and after that it is diminished. Below 1055 degrees the absorption of oxygen steadily declines. In respect to the activity of the oxygen, the most differing results are obtained, according to the activity. If the oxygen be made fresh from chlorate of potassa, it sustains life even in the pure form, and the activity of the functions are increased; if electric sparks are passed through the gas, or if the gas be heated 100, the same is the fact. On the other hand, if the gas is exposed to ammonia, to decomposing animal matter, or even to living animals, over and over again it loses, even when diluted, its activity, and no longer combines with the blood. In reference to the last point, Dr. Richardson said that there were conditions of blood in which the power of absorption was limited. Alcohol, chloroform, opium, and certain alkaline products, formed in the blood in disease, prevented absorption of oxygen, and death not uncommonly took place from this cause. Great increase of water did the same. After this description, Dr. Richardson added that the question had often been put whether the inhalation of oxygen could be usefully applied in the treatment of disease. Priestly, Beddoes, Hill, and many of those who lived when oxygen was first discovered, had formed the most sanguine expectations on this point: they saw before them an elixir, if not the elixir vitae. Chaptal, in speaking of the effects of oxygen in consumption, said of it: "It raises hope, but, alas! it merely spreads flowers on the tomb." Since then various opinions of the extremest kind have been expressed, the differences having arisen from the entire want of order that has been followed in the inquiry. One man has used pure oxygen, the other diluted—the one active, the other negative oxygen. The one has given the gas to anæmic people, whose blood is surcharged with water; the other to diabetic, or choleraic persons, whose blood is of high specific gravity: the one has given it heated, the other at the temperature of the day. If even a stick of phosphorus was exposed to oxygen under such varying conditions, the phenomena obtained would be as variable as those that had been registered in physis regarding oxygen as a remedy. The difficulties of arriving at uniform results had been almost insurmountable from another cause—that of obtaining oxygen in a practical form for inhalation. Fortunately, this difficulty was now removed. The discovery by Mr. Robbins of a mode of evolving oxygen, by acting on peroxide of barium and bichromate of potassa with dilute sulphuric

acid, had given him the opportunity of inventing a little apparatus for inhaling oxygen, which could be carried anywhere and used at a moment's notice. It consists of two glass globes, with a double-valved mouthpiece connected with the escape tube of one globe. The powder containing the oxygen was placed in one globe, and dilute sulphuric acid was poured on it. The oxygen gas was evolved, and passed over into the second globe, which was half filled with water. From this, after being washed, in passing through the water, the gas was inhaled. The apparatus was so arranged that any dilution of oxygen recommended—three parts of oxygen to two of nitrogen—could be secured; and, by changing the water in the second globe, so as to have hot or temperate or very cold, the activity of the combination could be graduated. In conclusion, Dr. Richardson remarked that his object in bringing forward this short communication was to invite medical men to a method of research which promised much, and which now might be carried on with certainty of result and uniformity of experience.

Professor Wanklyn said he was prepared for many of the results arrived at by Dr. Richardson. He said further that it was now placed beyond a doubt that the deterioration of the air in a badly-ventilated room was not due either to the abstraction of oxygen from the air or to the increase of the carbonic acid, but to some other cause not yet determined. In the worst cases of ill-ventilation the differences in carbonic acid and oxygen were too small to account for the real effect.

The President could not quite agree with the last statement.

Dr. Richardson proposed to renovate the air of an apartment by passing electric sparks through it.

On Cell Theories. By Mr. J. T. Dickson.—The author adverted to the recent progress in the synthesis of organic materials, and remarked that some physiologists had endeavoured to show that it was as easy to form cells out of unorganized matter as to make organic substances; but, from the absence of the life element, he compared such manufactures merely to models.

On the Vocal Organ of the Corixa, an Aquatic Insect. By Mr. R. Garner.—This insect, when confined in a vessel of water, is remarkable in producing a continuous sound, distinct from any produced by striking the sides of the vessel. The legs are elevated simultaneously with the noise, and friction might be produced upon the edge of the elytra, or by means of a projection or process at the base of the first pair of legs; there is also a little sac, which is probably accessory to the sound, situated at the base of the under-wings on each side, containing a little club-like body of a shape similar to the poisers of a fly or tipula.

On the Hour of Death in Acute and Chronic Disease. By Mr. A. Haviland.—The author had collected over 5000 cases of death, with the hour of death and other circumstances recorded, which he had tabulated and exhibited on a large chart. He showed, in 1000 cases of death in children under five years of age, that the periods of the greatest mortality took place during the hours between one and eight a.m.; that an extraordinary depression took place in the succeeding hours. Between nine and twelve p.m. the rate of mortality was at its minimum. He then compared these statistics with 2891 deaths from all causes, and the chart showed how remarkably the wave-lines of death compared with those above. He then compared these diagrams with deaths from consumption, which, although they showed a general resemblance to the wave-line, yet between the hours of four to eight a.m. there was a depression, when compared with the first four hours' period. He urged his professional brethren to assist him in his investigations by forwarding to him data for further investigation of this interesting subject. He contended that the tables on the chart proved the extraordinary mortality in the early hours of the morning, when the powers of life were at their lowest ebb, and, strange to say, when the patient was most cared for. He urged the necessity of feeding and supporting the patients at their weakest hour, so as to tide them over a critical period.

On the Dietary of the Agricultural Poor. By the Rev. J. Slatter.—The results of an inquiry into the dietary of his poorer parishioners (in the southern districts of England), made during the spring of the present year. The advance of labour and the enclosure of commons had tended to deteriorate the diet of the poor, the one by diminishing the amount of offal parts of fresh meat, which it was once in their power to buy cheaply, and the other by diminishing the supply of milk so desirable for all ages, but especially for young children.

Dr. Davy considered it proved that the labouring classes throughout most parts of England were under-fed, and he believed the most of the evil was that they were under-paid.

Section E.—GEOGRAPHY AND ETHNOLOGY.

An Expedition across the Rocky Mountains into British Columbia by the Yellow Head or Leather Pass. By Viscount Milton and Dr. Cheadle.—In the spring of 1862 Viscount Milton resolved to investigate for himself the nature of the country between the Red River settlement and the Rocky Mountains, and to penetrate, if possible, by the shortest route, direct to the gold regions of Cariboo—an enterprise hitherto unattempted. He was fortunate enough to secure, as his companion in this attempt, his friend Dr. Cheadle, of Caius College, Cambridge. After bearing testimony to the value of the country lying between Red River and the Rocky Mountains, and giving an account of the great fertility of the soil and the extent of its mineral wealth, the paper proceeds to relate the incidents of the journey. From Fort Edmonton on the Saskatchewan the party followed the trail to Jasper House. This portion of the road lay through dense forest, almost unbroken for 300 miles. The ground was almost universally boggy, and a day's journey is described as consisting of a continual floundering through bogs, varied by plunges and jumps over the timber lying strewn, crossed, and interlaced over the path and on every side. After the lapse of twenty-six days from leaving Fort Edmonton, the travellers found themselves fairly in the Rocky Mountains. They followed the course of the Athabasca for some time, but afterwards followed the valley of the Myette, and eventually reached the height of land so gradually that they could hardly believe they had gained the watershed of the Pacific. A few days after they struck the Fraser river, already a stream of considerable size. This they continued to follow until reaching Tête Jaune's Cache, at the grand fork of the Fraser, and fairly on the western side of the main ridge of the Rocky Mountains. This portion of the journey proved the most harassing they had yet experienced. The river had overflowed its banks up to the steep mountain-sides of the narrow valley, and they were obliged to travel for days together through water up to their horses' girths, or clambering up the precipitous sides where no place for rest could be found. From Tête Jaune's Cache they followed the trail of some emigrants who had crossed the mountains during the preceding summer, with the intention of reaching British Columbia, but of whose fate nothing was known. The track crossed Canor River, one of the sources of the Columbia, where the party had a narrow escape from drowning, and thence struck the head waters of the Thompson river. It soon, however, came entirely to an end. The emigrants had given up in despair the idea of cutting through forests so dense and encumbered, and had made rafts in order to drop down the river to Kamloops. This plan they had no means of following, and were compelled to cut their way by land. The party were so few in number and so destitute of proper appliances that their progress was very slow. For a month they were buried in the vast pine forest, where, apparently, man had never before set foot. Everything but flour and pemmican had been lost in the Fraser—clothes and ammunition amongst the rest. Provisions came to an end, and for weeks they subsisted on dried horse-flesh. They finally succeeded in reaching Kamloops, in British Columbia, in miserable plight, and three months after leaving Edmonton.

The paper concludes as follows:—

"In conclusion, I must venture a few general observations upon the nature of the country through which we passed, from Fort Edmonton, on the eastern side, to Kamloops on the west of the mountains, with regard to the practicability of a road or a railway being taken across by that point. Our party being, I believe, the only one which has passed through this region entirely by land, the testimony has some value, as being all that is known of a very considerable portion of the distance. In the first place, I may safely state that, with the exception of one or two rocky and precipitous bluffs—few and trifling obstructions, compared with those which have been already so successfully overcome in making the road along the Fraser river—there are no engineering difficulties of any importance. On the other hand, however, for almost the whole distance, the road would require to be made, there being no open country until reaching the lower portion of the valley of the North Thompson. From Edmonton to Jasper

THE READER.

12 NOVEMBER, 1864.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

SCIENTIFIC CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CONFORMATION OF THE ALPS.

Denmark Hill, 10th November, 1864.

MY attention has but now been directed to the letters in your October numbers on the subject of the forms of the Alps. I have, perhaps, some claim to be heard on this question, having spent, out of a somewhat busy life, eleven summers and two winters (the winter work being especially useful, owing to the definition of inaccessible ledges of strata by new-fallen snow) in researches among the Alps, directed solely to the questions of their external form and its mechanical causes, while I left to other geologists the more disputable and difficult problems of relative ages of beds.

I say "more disputable" because, however complex the phases of mechanical action, its general nature admits, among the Alps, of no question. The forms of the Alps are quite *visibly*, owing to the action (how gradual or prolonged cannot yet be determined) of elevatory, contractile, and expansive forces, followed by that of currents of water at various temperatures, and of prolonged disintegration—ice having had small share in modifying even the higher ridges, and none in causing or forming the valleys.

The reason of the extreme difficulty in tracing the combination of these several operative causes in any given instance is that the effective and destructive drainage by no means follows the leading fissures, but tells fearfully on the softer rocks, sweeping away inconceivable volumes of these, while fissures or faults in the harder rocks of quite primal structural importance may be little deepened or widened, often even unindicated, by subsequent aqueous action. I have, however, described at some length the commonest of the structural and sculptural phenomena in the fourth volume of "Modern Painters," and I gave a general sketch of the subject last year in my lecture at the Royal Institution (fully reported in the *Journal de Genève* of 2nd September, 1863), but I have not yet thrown together the mass of materials in my possession, because our leading chemists are only now on the point of obtaining some data for the analysis of the most important of all forces—that of the consolidation and crystallization of the metamorphic rocks, causing them to alter their bulk and exercise irresistible and irregular pressures on neighbouring or incumbent beds.

But, even on existing data, the idea of the excavation of valleys by ice has become one of quite ludicrous untenableness. At this moment the principal glacier in Chamonix pours itself down a slope of twenty degrees or more over a rock two thousand feet in vertical height; and just at the bottom of this ice-cataract, where a water-cataract of equal power would have excavated an almost fathomless pool, the ice simply accumulates a heap of stones, on the top of which it rests.

The lakes of any hill country lie in what are the isolated lowest (as its summits are the isolated highest) portions of its broken surface, and ice no more engraves the one than it builds the other. But how these hollows were indeed first dug we know as yet no more than how the Atlantic was dug; and the hasty expression by geologists of their fancies in such matters cannot be too much deprecated, because it deprives their science of the respect really due to it in the minds of a large portion of the public, who know and *can* know nothing of its established principles, while they can easily detect its speculative vanity. There is plenty of work for us all to do without losing time in speculation; and, when we have got good sections across the entire chain of the Alps, at intervals of twenty miles apart, from Nice to Innsbruck, and exhaustive maps and sections of the lake-basins of Lucerne, Annecy, Como, and Garda, we shall have won the leisure, and may assume the right, to try our wits on the formative question.

J. RUSKIN.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.

Royal Institution, Nov. 7.—General Monthly Meeting.—Mr. William Pole, F.R.S., Treas. and V.P., in the chair.—Dádháí Naoroji, Esq., was elected a Member. The Chairman announced the following addition to "The Donation Fund for the Promotion of Experimental Researches:—Professor Faraday (second annual donation), £20; J. P. Gassiot, Esq., Jun., £20.

Linnean Society, Nov. 3. George Bentham, Esq., President, in the chair.—The President announced that the third and concluding part of

House the surface is slightly undulating, the lower ground universally swampy, everywhere covered with thick forest. From Jasper House to Tête Jaune's Cache, the pass through the main ridge of the Rocky Mountains, the valley is, for the most part, wide and unobstructed, except by timber, which is generally of large size; the rivers small and mostly fordable, even at their highest. The ascent to the height of land is very gradual, and, indeed, almost imperceptible, and the descent, although much more rapid, neither steep nor difficult. From the Cache to the first opening out of the valley of the Thompson, about eighty miles north of Kamloops, the only route lies along that river, running through a succession of narrow gorges, shut in on each side by lofty and inaccessible mountains. The whole of this portion is obstructed by growing and fallen timber of the largest size; but the fact of our being able to bring horses through without any previous track being cut open proves sufficiently that there are no serious obstacles in the way of an engineer. No great ascents or descents occur, the bottom of the ravine being generally level, except where the transverse ranges of hills come down close to the water's edge. Many of these are, indeed, rocky, but consist generally of broken fragments of no great size. No bluffs of solid rock appear until the last forty miles, where the country is generally open, and otherwise little obstructed. The flooding of the river by the melted snows of the mountains does not interfere with the passage along the valley, we having traversed it in the middle of the summer when the waters were at the highest. A road might possibly be made more direct to Cariboo than by continuing on to Kamloops, by following the N.W. branch of the North river, which comes in about sixty miles south of Tête Jaune's Cache, or the Canoe river, some fifteen miles below that place; but, from the rugged nature of the country to the west, such a road could only be made by great labour and outlay. The easiest line would, I apprehend, be from the junction of a small river which flows into the Thompson, about twenty miles north of the Clearwater, or about eighty north of Kamloops. This stream, the Indians informed us, came from the Cariboo lake, and passes through a totally open region. The most serious difficulty to the adoption of a route by Jasper House would be the want of pasturage for cattle. The patches of open are few on the eastern side, rather larger and more numerous within the mountains; but, after leaving the Cache, on the western side, the forest is unbroken for above 100 miles, and in no portion of the whole 600 or 700 miles from Edmonton to the Clearwater, except at Jasper House, is there sufficient food for any large number of animals. The advantages of this route would be—(1st) That it lies far removed from the boundary line well within British territory; (2nd) that it passes entirely through a country inhabited only by friendly and peaceable Indians; (3rd) that it offers the most direct communication from Canada to the gold regions of British Columbia, and from it the Thushwap and Okanagan districts, as well as the road on the Fraser, are easily accessible. These considerations are, I think, of sufficient importance to require that the question whether this more northern pass does not, from its directness and the security which it offers, possess more solid advantages than those lying further south should be carefully and fairly weighed. The more southern passes lying within the British line are far more steep and difficult than the one by Jasper House, and are in unsafe proximity to the American border. The only advantages to be claimed for them appear to be that they communicate with more open country on either side, that pasturage is plentiful along the road, and that, from their more southerly latitude, they are likely to be blocked with snow for a shorter period. But, whichever be the one selected, I would urge most strongly the necessity for immediate action in the matter, and hope, though not with confidence, that the new Hudson's Bay Company will cast off the prejudices and lay aside the obstructiveness which degraded the policy of the old one, and promote to the utmost of their power that scheme which is of such vital importance to the advancement of all the British possessions in North America."

The President and Sir John Richardson, the companion of Franklin, spoke highly of the value and interest of the paper, and eulogized the conduct of Viscount Milton in leaving the ease and luxury of a home like his for the true advancement of science. He had, more successfully than any other traveller, faced the dangers and difficulties of a most difficult and inaccessible country.

THE Copley, Royal, and Rumford medals have this year been awarded as follows:—*Copley Medal*—Mr. Charles Darwin, F.R.S., for his important researches in geology, zoology, and botanical physiology. *Royal Medals*—Mr. Jacob Lockhart Clarke, F.R.S., for his researches on the intimate structure of the spinal cord and brain, and on the development of the spinal cord; Mr. Warren De La Rue, F.R.S., for his observations on the total eclipse of the sun in 1860, and for his improvements in astronomical photography. *Rumford Medal*—Dr. John Tyndall, F.R.S., for his researches on the absorption and radiation of heat by gases and vapours. It is especially satisfactory to find the work of a philosopher, who, like Darwin, is not only the author of numerous monographs of the most varied as well as the most valuable description, but has revolutionized biology by the introduction of new fundamental conceptions, so early and so fully recognised by the Council of the Royal Society.

We learn that the Astronomer-Royal for Scotland, armed with a firman giving him full powers, is about to visit the Great Pyramid, with a view of investigating the "Metrology" of that remarkable structure, to which he has recently called attention. Professor Smyth takes out magnesium wire, in order to photograph the interior, especially the mysterious inner chamber and more mysterious coffer.

It is stated in the *Moniteur Belge* that Baron Liebig intends to resign his chair in the University of Munich, with the view of settling in London, to occupy an important position which has been offered to him by the company to be formed for utilizing the sewage of London.

CAPTAIN BURTON'S paper at the Geographical Society on Monday next is looked forward to with much interest by all those geographers more especially interested with Africa. Is it true that, after all, the sources of the Nile are still to seek?

WE have received the following elements (by Tietjen) of the new minor planet Terpsichore (81). We append an ephemeris for those of our readers who care to look at it:—

	1864, Oct. 23 ⁰ B. M. T.			
M	351 ⁰	31'	52 ⁰	
π	23	40	12 ¹	
Ω	2	48	29 ³	} Mean equinox, 1864 ⁰ .
ι	8	45	43 ⁰	
φ	7	32	35 ⁴	
μ	765 ⁰ 404'			
log. a	0 ⁰ 44043.			

EPHEMERIS.									
		α	δ				α	δ	
Nov. 12	23 52 34	+2 51 ⁶			Nov. 19	23 53 7	+3 11 ⁶		
13	52 33	54 ¹			20	53 19	15 ⁰		
14	52 34	56 ⁶			21	53 34	18 ⁵		
15	52 36	+2 59 ³			22	53 50	22 ²		
16	52 41	+3 2 ²			23	54 8	25 ⁹		
17	52 48	5 ²			24	54 28	+3 29 ⁸		
18	52 56	+3 8 ³							

COUNT MARX HALL of Vienna has communicated to the Ethnological Society an account of the researches of Professor Jeitteles, who had discovered, near Olmütz, traces of ancient peat-bogs, containing human and animal remains, with fragments of works of art. Of these, a series of twenty-nine specimens have been presented to the Museum of the Austrian Imperial Geological Institute. Amongst them are broken lower jaw-bones of ox and boar; molars of *Bos primigenius* (?) and of horse; horn-cover of ox; a metatarsal bone of a ruminant, bearing evident traces of human workmanship; several bones that had been broken, seemingly for the extraction of marrow; fragments of charcoal; carbonized cereals, mixed with peat; fragments of pottery, made of clay and of graphite; a piece of bronze, bearing traces of fusion; a grindstone; a piece of leather; carbonized wood; and a bundle of vegetable fibre, evidently intended for the fabrication of some tissue. A skull, and other portions of a human skeleton, have been found in the same peat-beds. The Vienna scientific societies are determined to make the most of these discoveries.

WE learn from a recent number of the *Mining and Smelting Magazine* that Herr Fr. Ad. Roemer of Clausthal more than suspects a new coal-field on the southern flank of the Harz. As this district lies about half-way between the coal-fields of Saxony and Westphalia, such a result would be an incalculable benefit to a wide extent of country. The operations would not require any greater capital than should be readily available in a town like Nordhausen, the Hanoverian Minister of Trade and Finance having decided on abandoning the exploration and working of this coal-field to private industry.

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volume 24 of the Society's Transactions was ready for publication. The following papers were read:—1, "Observations on some Orchids of the South of France," by Mr. T. Moggridge; 2, "Notes on the Chatham Islands," by Mr. Henry H. Travers; 3, "On the genera *Sweetia*, Spreng., and *Glycine*, L., simultaneously published under the name of *Leptolobium*," by Mr. G. Benthams, Pres. L. S.; 4, "Account of *Myrmica Kirbii* of South India," by Dr. Shortt, F.L.S.; 5, "Account of a Heronry and Breeding-place of other Water Birds in Southern India," by the same.

Anthropological Society, Nov. 1. Dr. James Hunt, President, in the chair.—The following new members were elected:—Sir Edward J. Eyre; Major W. Osborne; Viscount Milton, F.R.G.S.; Dr. P. M. Duncan, Sec. G. S.; Colonel J. Holland, and Messrs. B. Baker, J. Dowie, J. Campbell, J. W. C. Cox, G. W. Marshall, J. W. Skene, C. T. Jones, W. Taylor, W. S. Mitchell, A. Macintosh Shaw, D. B. Robertson, Samuel Laing, C. F. Ash, R. Thin, R. B. N. Walker, and H. S. Freeman. Professor Carl Gustaf Carus and Dr. Carl Vogt were elected Honorary Fellows, and Dr. Ludwig Buchner, Professor His, Professor Moleschott, and Dr. Burmeister Corresponding Members. The following Local Secretaries were appointed:—England: Professor W. King, Rev. W. Monk; abroad: Captain Brome, G. W. Brown, Dr. A. von Kremer, Dr. Theodor Bilharz, Prof. Retzius, Dr. Edwin Lee, Rev. H. Callaway. The following papers were read:—Report on the Anthropological Papers read at the Bath Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. By Mr. C. Carter Blake.

"Notes on Certain Matters connected with the Dahomans." By Captain R. F. Burton, late Commissioner to Dahome.—The author stated that the kingdom of Dahome is one of eight purely negro empires. Among the others are Ashantee, which has lately been at war with our Gold Coast protectorate, and the kingdom of Benin, both of which are as inhuman in their worship as Dahome. In the lake regions of Central Africa is the country of Karagwah; to the north, where the Victoria Nyanza is supposed to lie, but the existence of which Captain Burton altogether doubts, is a fine hilly country, inhabited by a superior race of negroes, who are ruled by a despotism which rivals in atrocity the most terrible despotisms of Western Africa. In central tropical Africa there is the great empire of Matiamoo, and in the south-east there is the country of the Muata Cazembra, in which two countries Captain Burton said nothing could be more horrible than the cruelties practised by the priests and the kings. The great military kingdom of Dahome was first made known to Europe in 1724, and from that time it has been notorious for the brutal state of barbarism of its inhabitants, and for the cruelties of its kings, who do not, however, appear to surpass in that respect the rulers of the other kingdoms in Central Africa. There has been a great mixture of foreigners with original natives, and Captain Burton estimates that the only proper freemen with any remnant of ancient blood are the members of the royal family, who number about 2000. The Dahoman king is sworn never to lead his army where canoes may be required; therefore a neighbouring tribe, to protect themselves from his incursions, have built their huts upon tall poles about a mile distant from the shore. These villages at once suggest the origin of the ancient lake-dwellings of Switzerland. The Dahoman language is most poor and meagre. It is harsh and explosive, the gutturals being most pronounced. About 300 words only are used in conversation; but the same word signifies very different things, according to the manner in which it is pronounced, which renders the language very perplexing. Captain Burton next noticed certain peculiarities in the Dahoman race which were of a strictly physiological character, and, in concluding his paper, observed that the dawn of the bright day when Africa will take her place in the republic of nations appears wholly dependent on the light of the crescent.

Philological Society, Nov. 4. Danby P. Fry, Esq., in the chair.—THE papers read were:—(1) "Contributions towards an Etymological Dictionary of the English Language," by Theodore Aufrecht, Esq.; (2) "The Real Evidence of the Second Text of Layamon on the Possessives in *es* and *his*," by F. J. Furnivall, Esq.—Professor Aufrecht dealt with the words *bare*, *ceiling*, *dough*, *foam*, *garlick*, *icicle*, *mildew*, and *oakum*. *Bare* stands for *bace*, and is from a root *bhas*, seen in Skr. *bhasad*, pudendum, literally the bare part; the first meaning was clear, manifest. *Ceiling* is

the upper wainscot formed by *sills* or *siles*; beams; A.S. *thel*, a beam, *thiling*, tabulatorium; O.N., *thili*, wainscot; M.H.G., *dille*, a plank wall or ceiling. *Dough* is "kneaded stuff," from Goth. *deigan*, to knead; and, as *d* stands for an older *dh*, a Latin *f* would represent it, as we see it does in *figere* (root *fig*), which is used in the same sense, as "figere similitudines ex argilla." *Foam* is "the swelling, that which rises to the surface," from Skr. *spady*, to swell; cp. L. *spuma*, E. *scum*. *Garlick* has not a Gaelic *garg*, sharp, for its prefix, but A.S. *gār*, a lance; it was called the "lance-leek" from its lengthy stalk. In *icicle* both parts mean ice, the *icle* being A.S. *gicel*, and not a mere diminutive. *Mildew*, which in Kent, on the hop, is still called "honeydew," as it was in Dutch *honigdauw*, Dan. *honnigdug* (Fr. *miellat*), gets its name from a transfer of that of the honeydew proper. *Oakum* is the dress falling from or off the comb (A.S. *camb*) in dressing flax; A.S. *acumbi*, hards, the coarse part of flax.

Mr. Furnivall's paper was devoted to correcting Serjeant Manning's version of the evidence of the second text of Layamon as to the possessives in *es* or *s* and *his*. Mr. Manning had stated, in a paper read before the Society last session, that nearly all the possessives in *es* of the first text of Layamon (ab. 1200), like "*Arthures halle*," had turned into *his*—"Arthur *his* halle"—in the second text, ab. 1300, A.D.; that, in fact, the *his* had, within one century, superseded the *es* as a possessive ending. Mr. Furnivall showed that, so far from the *es* having been superseded by the *his*, in the very text Serjeant Manning represented this to have taken place there were actually twice as many possessives in *es* as had been produced by him in *his*. Instead of nearly all the possessive *es*'s having been converted into *his*, as stated by Serjeant Manning, in fact not one third of them had been so converted. He appealed to the Society to take notice of this unprecedented misstatement of evidence, and to take steps to correct the further circulation of it in their proceedings. The following resolutions were passed:—

I. That the Hon. Secretary be requested to call the attention of Serjeant Manning to, and ask for an explanation of, his two statements in his "*Inquiry*"—(1) that nearly all the A.S. possessive inflexional genitives of the earlier MS. [of Layamon] became the pronominal possessives of the latter version, when a list of 226 possessives in *es* from that latter version has been laid before the Society; (2) that in the same latter version "the genitive in *s*, when used in a possessive sense, was superseded by the pronoun '*his*'" (p. 34), when he only produces 112 instances of *his* against the 226 of the possessive in *s* as above mentioned.

II. That the said list of the 226 possessives in *es* be printed, and inserted (with Serjeant Manning's answer, if given) in every copy of the Society's Transactions for 1864 now in the Society's possession, and be forwarded to every member, person, and library to whom a copy of the 1864 Transactions has been sent.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14th.

ROYAL ACADEMY, at 8.—"Anatomy," Mr. R. Partridge. GEOGRAPHICAL, at 8.30.—Burlington House. 1. President's Address. 2. "On the Present State of our Knowledge with regard to the Source of the Nile," Capt. R. F. Burton. 3. "Journey to the Snowy Peaks of Kilima-njaro," (The late) Mr. Richard Thornton. 4. Letters from M. du Chailu and the Baron von der Decken.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15th.

STATISTICAL, at 8.—30, St. James's Square. "On the Commercial Progress of the Colonies, 1858 to 1863," Mr. E. T. Blakeley.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL, at 8.—4, St. Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square. "On Viti and its Inhabitants," Mr. W. T. Pritchard. "On the Astronomy of the Red Man of the New World," Mr. W. Bollaert. "On the Neanderthal Skull: its Peculiar Formation explained Anatomically," Dr. J. Barnard Davis.

CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—25, Great George Street, Westminster. "On the Decay of Materials in Tropical Climates and the Methods for Arresting and Preventing it," Mr. G. O. Mann.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16th.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—John Street, Adelphi. The Opening Address will be delivered by Mr. William Hawes, Esq., Chairman of the Council.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17th.

ROYAL, at 8.30.—Burlington House. "On the Spectra of Some of the Nebulae," Mr. W. Huggins. "On the Composition of Sea-water in different parts of the Ocean," Dr. G. Forchhammer (of Copenhagen).

LINNEAN, at 8.—Burlington House. "On the Movement of Insects over Polished Vertical Surfaces," Mr. Blackwall. "On a Huge Banyan-tree in the Chingleput District, S. India," Dr. Shortt.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18th.

PHILOLOGICAL, at 8.—Somerset House. "The Grammatical Forms of Southern English as exhibited in the Ancien Rive about A.D. 1220-1230," Mr. J. Brock. "On the Use of who in the Nominative as a Relative before A.D. 1227," Mr. F. J. Furnivall.

ART.

WINTER EXHIBITIONS OF PICTURES.

TWO exhibitions of pictures are now open in Pall Mall—one in the French Gallery, and the other in the Gallery of the Institute of Water-colour Painters. Each of these collections is reported to be the property of well-known middlemen, or dealers; and the interest awakened by the announcement of "winter exhibitions" is considerably modified by the discovery that most of the pictures have either been previously exhibited, or have been painted to order by the more dexterous and popular artists of the day. These exhibitions are, in fact, large shops or show-rooms, in which those works are more especially displayed which modern taste and fashion have pronounced to be indispensable in a well-formed private collection. Thus we should naturally expect to find in these exhibitions, set forth in prominent places, examples of Linnell, Dobson, Goodall, Faed, Frère, Duverger, and others, some of which will be new works painted to order, or, in other words, "expressly for this exhibition." Besides these, we may look for examples of most of the younger painters, whose status in the profession has yet to be made, but whose works have attracted attention as being "full of promise." The success of painters like Millais, Hunt, and Calderon has suggested the prudence of speculating, to a certain extent, in the productions of rising young artists. The taste inspired by exhibitions of French and other foreign pictures in London has created a demand for a kind of art which our own artists are not able to supply; and we may fairly speculate on the probability that these exhibitions will contain examples of those few foreign painters whose works have found favour with the English public.

On the other hand, we may be quite sure that no first-rate works of art will be displayed in these exhibitions. The pictures they contain have been already purchased with a view to sale; and the works of Landseer, Millais, Hunt, John Lewis, and even the more important pictures of Philips and of Frith, do not need the medium of such exhibitions as these in which either to make their first appearance or to sustain an interest which, in this wealthy and artificial society, never flags. Their works, it is true, pass from hand to hand, and, for the most part, through the instrumentality of dealers; but, once displayed in the great annual exhibition of the nation, they pass current as of unquestioned value. The presence of works of this class in these exhibitions would indicate at once depreciation in their worth or loss of position in the artists. The works in these exhibitions are intended to meet the wants of a large and moderately wealthy class. They are what we should call, in by no means an offensive sense, furniture pictures; and many of them will be recognised as repetitions, not exactly of subject, but of treatment and effect, already familiar in a dozen instances to those whom business or opportunities have led to take note of the practice and progress of living painters.

Of late years the number as well as the influence of dealers has increased largely. It is now no longer the custom to deal directly with the artist, and *bond fide* transactions between the patron and the painter are the exceptions to the established rule. An intending purchaser, who should attend the private view of one of the water-colour exhibitions, for instance, will find that almost the entire contents of the gallery is the property of dealers. The pictures are bought on the easel of the artist subject only to an express stipulation that they shall be exhibited in the room of the society of which he is a member, a stipulation joyfully acceded to by the purchaser, for whom even the established exhibitions are thus converted into shops for the display of his wares. The large sales effected at the "private views" represent the profits of the dealer as well as the popularity of the painter. Even the more important works produced in the year and exhibited at the Royal Academy will be found on inquiry to be almost invariably the property of one or other of the noted dealers, out of whose hands they pass into private collections. As the capital invested in their business is now very large, the dealings are also very extensive; the works of certain painters always find a market, and are therefore freely purchased by dealers in almost any numbers—at all events for a time. The works of others receive no encouragement, and their authors go unrewarded. In general, head-work is less understood and less cared for than hand-work; and, as it is the object of the dealer to pander to and not to correct the public taste, it is

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not to be wondered at that, as long as people make no real effort to understand, or even care to be informed, what good art means, prettiness and skill are more appreciated than thought and subject. Hence we find that the heterogeneous collection of a dealer consists mainly of those popular works which are the subjects of careless criticism, and of the early efforts of young men upon whose promise it is part of his business to speculate.

The two exhibitions now open are fair instances of such collections; but, beside these, the dealer is also frequently the possessor of more costly and precious works, which are not exposed for sale, because he knows, in the slang of the trade, where to "place them" to the best advantage. We rarely, therefore, find any first-class pictures in these exhibitions.

Though we look upon the established influence of the dealer as a misfortune for art, there is certainly a point of view from which his action is seen to good advantage. The evil of his presence in the kingdom of art is, in the first place, that mainly to his influence is owing the spirit of gambling which now distinguishes more or less the purchase and sale of works of art; and, in the second place, that the power of bringing out or keeping back, of making or marring, the younger members of the profession is, to a certain extent, lodged in his hands. On the other hand, his function is to save the artist and purchaser also a world of trouble and petty annoyances, and to introduce to public notice the works of young painters. The painter disposes of his work to the dealer at once, and at his own price: he has no further trouble about it; no alterations are required to suit the fastidious taste of a private purchaser; his time is not taken up by a dozen visits to his studio to talk about the size and shape and subject of his work; he receives instant payment, and may go on with another picture free from the anticipation of the subsequent discontent of the purchaser and a request to change the work for another that shall be more gratifying to the taste of his wife. He cares little to hear that the dealer has realized fifty per cent. on his purchase; he would still rather sell to him than to a patron, who seldom treats him so well.

If this be the case with established painters, it is still more so with struggling young artists. The sale of a picture is sometimes a matter of life and death; and, in some instances, they have been too much disposed to forget, in the blaze of subsequent triumph, the obligation they once lay under to the dealer, and only find hard words to fling at him for the hardness of the bargain he made with them at a time when he, perhaps, as little expected as they did that he would ever see his money back again. But, for good or evil, the development of art-practice has created the office of the dealer. We may regret, in some aspects, that it is so; but it is probable that the evil will effect its own cure, and that the inflated and unwarrantable prices which are freely asked and given for works that appeal to a merely popular taste—prices that have been bolstered up mainly by the efforts of dealers—will, before long, convince the public that it would be wiser to leave less power in their hands, and to understand for themselves the distinction that exists between an intrinsic and a mere market value.

There are many new and not a few good pictures in these Galleries, although there is, as we should anticipate, a great similarity in their contents. There are beautiful examples by Linnell in each; there are also other pictures by this able painter in which the beauties of his work are marred by his mannerisms and his faults. The sentiment of landscape he always feels, and he succeeds in conveying his own idea to the mind of the spectator, herein showing a power that is very rarely found among modern landscape-painters; but his sense of the beauty of natural forms is very deficient, and the lumpy excrecences in some of his foregrounds, and the inelegance of his trees, detract from merits which are unquestionably of a very high order. The most striking picture in the collection at the French Gallery is Mr. Orchardson's representation of a Cavalier delivering a challenge on the point of his rapier to a Puritan soldier, who is being urged by a Nonconformist minister not to receive it. The struggle between the calls of honour and the dictates of conscience is finely expressed in the countenance of the Puritan. The fashion and grace of the aristocratic Cavalier are admirably rendered in the action of the figure as he bows to present his cartel. The colouring is very agreeable and truthful, and the spaciousness of the room in which the scene takes place is successfully represented.

We are reminded, in looking at this picture, partly of John Gilbert and partly of the French painters who have taken up this class of subject; but the work is that of an original painter, who has already given good grounds for the hope that he will become one of the ablest and most versatile of our painters. Among other new works we notice a large composition by Mr. W. M. Egley, "Francis I. visited by his Sister and Charles V. when a Prisoner." The picture fails to impress us as being a truthful representation of either the scene itself or the characters who fill it: the conventionalism is too apparent, and the action is theatrical: in quality the painting is black and somewhat coarse. The work is not to be taken as a fair specimen of the painter's power, which is known to be considerable. The other chief exhibitors in both exhibitions are Mr. Hayllar, Mr. Dobson, Mr. Faed, Mr. Yeames, Mr. Hillingford, and Mr. G. Stanfield. To some of the works contributed by these gentlemen we may have occasion to refer. We need only observe at present that they are, for the most part, fair examples of their abilities, and do not call for special notice. There are present in both galleries some good examples of the French *genre* school—small works by Frère, Duverger, Castan, and others—and, in the Gallery of the Institute of Water-colour Painters, we observed an exquisite little work by Mr. F. Goodall.

MUSIC.

MUSICAL NOTES.

OUR notice of Mr. Macfarren's "Helvellyn," which has been produced with success at the Royal English Opera, is unavoidably postponed till next week.

MR. HARRISON commenced his English Opera season at her Majesty's Theatre by a performance of "Faust" on Tuesday evening. The new soprano, Madame Kenneth, who made her *début* on Wednesday as the *Traviata*, was so indisposed on that occasion that no fair judgment could be formed of her powers.

MR. BENEDICT has received from the King of Württemberg the Order of the Crown—a decoration which confers a "title of nobility" upon its holder.

A NEW amateur choral society is announced as in course of formation. It is to consist of eighty members, and to devote itself to the practice and performance of important classical works. Mr. Hargitt is to be the conductor. Inquirers are referred to Captain Philips, care of Messrs. Cramer.

THE first performance for the season of the Sacred Harmonic Society will be "St. Paul" on the 25th November. The National Choral Society has begun its season with a rehearsal of "Elijah."

THE young Swedish lady Mdlle. Nilsen, who has lately made her first appearance in opera at the Théâtre Lyrique, is said by good judges to be showing qualities which will entitle her to a high rank among the best singers of the time. Her success has been singularly rapid.

M. CARVALHO has addressed a long letter to the editor of the *Figaro-Programme* in reply to the strictures of that journal on his admission of translations of Italian operas into the *répertoire* of the Théâtre Lyrique. He justifies his policy on the ground that the Italian Opera ("Théâtre Italien") itself appropriates without payment the property of the opera-houses in Italy; that this theatre is practically inaccessible to 99-100ths of the population of Paris; while he both pays Signor Verdi for the use of his works and places the enjoyment of such works within the reach of all classes. He appeals, too, to the list of French operas which he has produced—"Mireille," "Les Troyens," "Faust," &c.—as a proof that he is not neglecting the works of native composers.

HERE ERNST's two new quartetts, the same which have made their mark at our Monday Popular Concerts, have been heard with applause in Paris. The brothers Holmes played the violins. Stephen Heller speaks in warm terms of the beauty of these compositions in the current number of the *Paris Gazette*.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL is once more being applied to musical purposes. A series of elementary choral classes is announced as beginning there this month, under the direction of Mr. Constantine, "with the sanction of" Mr. Hullah.

A BIT of gossip from the Continent informs us that the King of Hanover officiated as godfather at the recent baptism of the infant child of Herr Joachim.

THE popular concerts of classical music have recommenced in Paris, under the direction of M. Pasdeloup, and are held every Sunday evening.

M. FÉTIS has at length himself put an end to the controversy as to the authorship of the "Marseillaise" by writing a letter to M. Kastner of the Institute, in which he declares himself satisfied with the evidence showing that Rouget de Lisle, the reputed author of the words and music, is really entitled to that distinction. M. Kastner is writing a monograph on the subject which ought to be interesting.

DONIZETTI's "Linda di Chamonix," an opera not played for a long time in Paris, is among the revivals of this season at the "Italiens," Mdlle. Patti taking the principal part. This pretty piece has not, we believe, been heard in London, save once or twice at Drury Lane, since the Lind days.

WE are glad to see that Messrs. Ewer & Co. have published cheap octavo editions of Mendelssohn's "Elijah" and "Athalia." As far the largest proportion of our choralists come from the middle classes, the reduction in the price of these masterpieces—they are sold at four shillings each—will be a great boon to thousands.

THE great musical event of the past week in Paris has been the appearance of Adelina Patti and Signor Scialese in "Il Barbiere di Siviglia." Though enthusiastically received, the performance of Mdlle. Patti has not passed without hostile criticism, principally due to the liberties which are taken with the music of Rossini.

A NEW operetta, entitled "Les Absents," the libretto to which is by M. Alphonse Daudet and the music by M. Ferdinand Poise, has been produced with success at the Opéra Comique in Paris. The music is described as light, sparkling, and unpretentious.

IN Gounod's "Faust," as produced at the Italian Opera, New York, the reception of Mdlle. Kellogg as *Margherita* is beyond measure enthusiastic. Signor Lotti is *Faust*, and Signor Susini *Mephistopheles*; but neither of the parts are satisfactorily sustained.

MUSIC FOR NEXT WEEK.

NOVEMBER 14th to NOVEMBER 19th.

SATURDAY.—Crystal Palace Orchestral Concert.

OPERAS:—

COVENT GARDEN (English), "Helvellyn," &c.

HER MAJESTY'S (English), "Traviata," "Faust," &c.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION (Opera di Camera), "The Soldier's Legacy."

THE DRAMA.

"MACBETH" AT DRURY LANE.

THE managers announced to the public that they were about to produce Shakespeare's tragedy on a scale of great completeness, combining in the representation all the characters, supernatural agents, choruses, and musical and scenical illusions. This they have not quite done; for we hear nothing of Lady Macduff, who is vital to the play, nor of the drunken porter, who is certainly not important. In one respect, however, they may have been said to have fulfilled more than they promised; for they have given us a vast accession of witches, adopting Davenant's amalgamation of Myddelton's "Witch," and flood the stage with the usual number, or even more, of the usual vocalists, who come in with a number of clothes-props, and, staring the audience in the face, chorus the fine music which was appended to the play just two hundred years since, when brought out by Davenant at the Duke's Theatre in 1665. There is a considerable doubt amongst antiquarian musicians whether this noble music was composed by Henry Leveredge or Matthew Locke. There can be no doubt, however, that it has always been deservedly popular. Whether it is dramatic to introduce it is another question, and a question which has by no means been raised for the first time in our generation; for we find that an anonymous author (Leigh Hunt?) in the early part of this century, when the play was produced with John Kemble and Mrs. Siddons, makes the following judicious remarks, according to Baker's *Biographia Dramatica*. After saying there is no warrant in Shakespeare's play for more than *Hecate* and the three speaking witches, he goes on:—"The score or more of vocal performers who are brought in russet cloaks and drawn up in rank for full ten minutes in front of the stage are intruders upon the scene of Shakespeare, who well knew how his illusions must be broken

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by a near and distinct view of many real, substantial persons in the business of his incantations. Their presence would be injurious in such a scene, supposing it possible that a crowd of mere hags could be collected to sing as we wish them. As it is, they are fatal to the whole course of ideas that should attend us in this part of the play. The men are mostly comedians as well as singers; and, whatever they may intend, their countenances, as soon as they are recognised, throw an air of burlesque upon the whole. The women, who are generally pretty enough to be-witch us in a sense very different from Shakespeare's, are often employed with laughing at each other, and sometimes with the audience, at their dresses, which they think frightful, but which, in fact, conceal neither their bright eyes nor rosy lips, nor scarcely their neat silk stockings." He then goes on sensibly to submit that, if the music must be introduced, then, at all events, the crowd of witches should be unseen; and we have lately seen, or rather heard, in the production of "Manfred," how effective such concealed choruses may be made.

I have quoted this sixty-year-old criticism to show that the objection to the large introduction of witches is no modern crotchet. At the time Davenant introduced them an entirely new fashion prevailed in the theatre; for the Restoration brought with it not only political but poetical novelties. The merry monarch, with his troop of young courtiers and, we must add, courtesans, had acquired, principally in France, entirely new notions as to the drama. Heretofore, when there was a literature, it had an Italian origin; and for twenty years, or nearly a whole generation, England had known little of any writing but crabbed polemical treatises. The literature which lay on the other side of the twelve years of the Republic had fallen into disuse, for no one at home cultivated it, and the finer spirits wandering abroad caught the tone and fashion of the land they sojourned in. It so happened, however, that the two royalist adherents to whom the fate of the drama was assigned on the Restoration had both been dramatists before the rebellion. Tom Killigrew had the license of the King's company, and Sir Wm. Davenant the license of the Duke's company, awarded to them at the Restoration. During the whole of Charles I.'s reign Davenant had been a dramatist, and therefore he retained, in his sixtieth year, when he reproduced "Macbeth," after the Restoration (1665), the ideas and tastes of the ante-Restoration generation. But he had been too long a resident abroad not to have acquired the Continental love of music and scenery; and, on his return, the effects of his modified notions were perceptible in his production of pieces with show and operatic embellishments. It thus came to pass that "Macbeth" was transformed almost into an opera by the music of Locke or Leveredge, it being only in such guise the grand anti-Restoration plays could be made palatable to the fashionable and fantastic audience that frequented the royal playhouses of Charles II.'s time.

The tastes fixed by the wits and poets of the early part of Charles II.'s reign ruled supreme even up to the accession of the Hanoverian kings. They were then pretty well worn out, and Garrick had the merit of sweeping away a vast amount of fastian and rubbish, both in writing and acting, and also of restoring a natural style. With nature Shakespeare came back to the stage very much purified, but still far from himself; for Garrick still ventured to write a long speech for the dying *Macbeth*, as he had for *Romeo*. Every age has not only its prejudices but its æsthetical notions; and, according to these, it will ever decide and deal with previous literature, however great and however forcible. Garrick did much in 1748, when he got rid of Davenant's meretricious alterations; and John Kemble did more in 1803, when he gave nothing but Shakespeare, except the singing witches, and, if he did omit *Lady Macduff* and other scenes, still did not desecrate the play by additions. Thethane and his wife were great parts for the grand tragedian and his grander sister. Edmund Kean was desperate and passionate, and added some few of the points still retained by the actors; but he was not a great *Macbeth*. Many persons cried up Macready's personation; but, to me, it seemed too irritable and too full of his own personality. He had the merit, however, of restoring the drama to its original state, though we rather think he used the singing additions. The Sadler's Wells management certainly dispensed with them; and Mrs. Warner's *Lady Macbeth* is probably the best this generation has seen.

We come now to the acting of the present revival at Drury Lane. Mr. Phelps's *Macbeth* is by no means one of his best performances. It lacks majesty and power. It is, in truth, a tremendous part to undertake to represent in all its intricacies and in its perpetual reflections as well as in its passionate revealments. What Johnson can mean by saying it has no nice revealment of character I do not understand; for surely the mingling in one person the barbaric, murderous chieftain and the tender-conscienced and mournfully-reflecting contemplator is a very "nice"—that is, "curious"—delineation of character. The uniting the rapid action of the vehement warrior with the delicate susceptibilities of the passive philosopher is a union of qualities and the production of a true and vital character which no genius except that of Shakespeare could have created. In any other hands such a union must have appeared incongruous and unnatural, and would have been absurd. Shakespeare had alone the peculiar power which could weld the most opposite qualities into a natural character. *Macbeth's* delicate reflections on *Duncan's* death, on life, on ambition—indeed, his continual comment on his own career renders the character as wonderful as it is powerful. But all this complexity makes it difficult to act with striking effect. The first two acts consist almost of mental hallucinations—the last three of a desperate combat with fate. Many actors have succeeded in one of the two phases—very few in both. Mr. Phelps reserves himself for the later demonstrations, and obtains most applause in them. I cannot say that he anywhere transported me from the immediate present. He had none of the passionate personality he shows in *Othello*, nor any of the misty dreamingness he so powerfully portrays in *Manfred*—not even his clear and elevated declamation. The remorse of *Macbeth* should not dwarf, but exalt him. His continual conflict with good and evil thoughts should not be an irritable conflict, but an alternation of grand emotions. As he goes on in crime he gets more ferocious, and ascends by desperation to a climax of atrocity. He is deluded to the last, and the variations of his feelings, as he finds himself gliding down into the inevitable gulf the demoniac powers have lured him to, are displayed by a succession of horrible surprises and desperate efforts to release himself. The business of the last acts, if every turn of emotion were fully expressed, is enough for any one actor in one night to forcibly and fully delineate. It requires, indeed, such acting as we have never seen, nor ever hope to see, realized on a stage.

The *Lady Macbeth* of Miss Faucit is a classical, well-expressed delineation, taken from her view of the character. But I cannot say her view is mine. She is energetic, impressive, real; she is earnest but conscious. She lays hold of every word and stamps it with a meaning; but she gives no coherence to the character as a whole. She seems as impressionable and almost as feverishly vehement as *Macbeth*. So far from taking a high pitch above him—so far from thinking little of murder and nothing of omens, she seems as much affected as he is by them. She indeed braves out the murder-scene, and is energetic enough; but, to awe such a man—to make him strange to the disposition which he owns—she should be indifferent to all that appals him. Her very return with the daggers should be leisurely, careless, and almost contemptuous. Such was Mrs. Pritchard's mode and Mrs. Siddons's—the latter with a little more of grandeur. She came leisurely, almost carelessly, across the stage, and held up her bloody hands with something akin to a smile. She had nothing of convulsion when she expressed her utter contempt of the dead and of painted horrors. All was self-possession and quietude. Even her hurrying *Macbeth* off the stage was calmly and quietly done; and it was this imperturbable nature which won the admiration of her husband and threw a spell upon the impressionable thane. She is, I believe, the personification of a sceptic, and even her invocation to the sightless ministers of crime was a half-scoffing one. Her suicidal death points also to this. Miss Faucit seems to consider her only as a female *Macbeth*; and such a reading destroys the contrast and the effect which the fascination of her superior dauntlessness (arising from her utter scepticism of good or evil powers) should produce on *Macbeth*.

The decoration of the play is creditable, but it does not bear the marks of any inventive mind having supervised or suggested it. In brief, it may be characterized as a careful and artistic illustration of the commonplace notions of the stage. The new scenes are numerous, picturesque,

and artistic. The business of the stage, as regards the accessories, is sensible and effective. The soldiers are well managed, and are made to add to the general picturesqueness. The spectral illusions have nothing novel, and *Banquo's* ghost is almost as objectionable as ever, though his positions are varied for the better. The chief landscape-scenes are the blasted heath, the exterior of the castle, the pit of Acheron, and Dunsinane Castle, where the siege is well shown. The interiors are massive and archaeologically true—the banquet scene particularly so; and, indeed, all are painted with the impress of Mr. W. Beverley's genius. The choruses of extraneous witches are well executed, far better than the solos. The general acting is good, and the incantation-scene effective. With nothing grand or transcending former efforts, but with a fine breadth of picturesqueness and general effect, the revival of "Macbeth" will prove attractive, and is certainly worth seeing, as a worthy effort to represent our grandest dramatic poet in the first theatre in the empire. The house on the first night was crowded, and could have been crowded over again by those turned away. F. G. T.

THE English and American residents in Florence have fitted up the magnificent library-hall of the Palace Rinuccini as a "Dramatic Drawing-room," in which amateur performances take place, under the management of Mr. Mowatt Ritchie and Mr. D. B. Wylie, the proceeds being given to the infant-schools of Florence. Mrs. Mowatt Ritchie is well known in London as an amateur of considerable power and ability, and Mrs. Proby, the wife of our consul, evinces great talent. Amongst the gentlemen of this company are the two sons of Mr. Hiram Power, Mr. Gould, an American long resident at Florence, and known to most English visitors for his social qualities and love of art, both the managers, Mr. Stockdale, a good Shakespearean, and Mr. Ion Perticaris, a clever light comedian. Amongst the English residents of Florence amateur theatricals have always been popular; indeed, those of Lord Normanby and Lord Burgherston are still quoted as quite important events in the social progress of Italian life and manners.

MADAME METHNA SCHELLER, a German actress, is performing at Niblos Theatre in New York, and causing a considerable sensation. She has played the principal female character in several of Shakespeare's plays, her associate being Mr. Edwin Forrest. Lately she has appeared as *Pauline* in the "Lady of Lyons," and her performance is spoken of as the best that has been witnessed in America since the first production of the drama.

"MAÎTRE GUÉRIN," a five-act comedy in prose, is the last production at the Comédie Française. It is by M. Emile Augier, and its first performance drew together a large audience, including many of the most distinguished literary men of Paris. The principal parts were sustained by Madame Arnould Plessy, Mlle. Favart, and MM. Got Delaunay, Lafontaine, and Giffroy. The new comedy is brilliant in dialogue, but the action is involved and obscure, and the catastrophe in many points objectionable. It was, however, received with loud applause.

THE Théâtre Déjazet has produced a new dramatic sketch entitled "Le Petit Journal." Its first representation was not very successful.

THE new comedy by M. Jules Guillaume, produced at the Théâtre des Galeries Saint-Hubert at Brussels, is a complete success. M. Brasseur, the well-known French comedian, is performing at that theatre; and, on the 4th inst., the Prince and Princess of Wales were present at his performance.

MADAME LINA MÉRANTE, première danseuse of the Imperial Academy of Music in Paris, has made her *début* with complete success in Brussels at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie. She is spoken of as one of the best and most finished danseuses of the day.

M. TH. DE KÜSTNER, formerly Intendant Général of the Royal Theatre at Berlin, and author of several works connected with the drama, has died at Leipsic at the age of eighty years.

At the Gymnase "Un Ménage en Ville," a new comedy in three acts by M. Th. Barrière, has been produced, in which Mlles. Samary and Camille Darte made successful *débuts*. The performance was followed by "Les Curieuses," a one-act comédietta by MM. H. Meilhac and A. Delavigne, in which the acting of Mlle. Delaporte is spoken of as particularly sprightly and fascinating.

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